

THE RELIQUARY.

APRIL, 1888.

Notes on the Plate of the Guild of the Trinity House, Hull.

BY T. M. FALLOW, M.A.

(Continued from p. 46.)

THE FERRIS "SCALE."

THIS is without question the finest piece of this fine collection. It is a large wooden standing cup or bowl, with a short plain neck, and has been apparently turned out of a single piece of wood, perhaps maple. The outer side of the wooden cup has a series of spiral concave flutings, which begin below the neck and converge to a point somewhere under the silver gilt mount supporting the cup or bowl. The mouth of the cup has a rim of silver, which is fringed over downwards and raised upwards above the neck; round the upper part of this rim is chased a small pattern of arabesques. (Plate XI.)

The mount which supports the bowl is a very fine piece of work. It may be said to consist of three portions; first there is immediately under the wooden bowl a shallow cup-shaped receptacle or "calix," in which the bowl rests; then below this is the stem proper, which is of a baluster type and much enriched. Three beautifully formed winged creatures springing from the upper part of the knob support the shallow cup in which the wooden bowl rests. Below the stem is the base or foot. This is of two stages, from the upper of which issue three human busts. Both the stages of the foot, as well as the centre of the stem and the part under the wooden bowl, are repoussé, with circular bosses and well-executed but stiff designs, thoroughly characteristic of the early part of the seventeenth century, and of the same character as, but much more elaborate than, the work round the foot of the Dickinson nut in the same collection. Inside the centre of the wooden bowl is a circular "print," bearing a shield of arms, viz., *Barry nebulée of six, on a chief a lion passant guardant.* (The tinctures are not shown.)

A vessel somewhat similar in design to this, but entirely of silver, was in the Londesborough collection. This is a very late instance of a silver-mounted wooden cup. It might perhaps be thought that the wooden part is older than the mount, but this does not on close examination seem likely, and the "print," which must almost certainly be original, is of the same date as of the silversmith's work

outside. It may, therefore, be all ascribed to one date, and that somewhere in the early part of the seventeenth century.

It came to the Hull Trinity House through Alderman Thomas Ferris, and is known as the Ferris "Scale." This use of the word "scale" for a cup is worthy of note. To this day the shallow perforated cup or strainer through which milk is "scaled" in Yorkshire is known locally as a "scale;" and in Halliwell's *Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words* one meaning of the substantive "scale" is given, as in use in Somerset, for a drinking cup. The word is no doubt cognate with the Danish "skaal" for a cup—a word now more familiar as the word used to express the toast pledged with the contents of the cup, than the cup itself.

There is no inscription on any part of the vessel, which is wholly gilt. Neither does the silver bear any hall marks. It is perhaps English, and certainly of the early part of the seventeenth century.

The dimensions are :—Height $12\frac{1}{2}$, diameter at mouth 5, of foot 4.

CAUDLE CUPS AND PORRINGERS.

THE main distinction between these vessels lies in the fact that the porringer has a wider mouth than a caudle cup; both have, or may have, covers and handles. Of those in the possession of the Hull Trinity House, there are three caudle cups and a pair of porringers.

One of the caudle cups is very similar to that of the year 1670, belonging to Earl Bathurst, which is figured in *Old English Plate* (p. 273); it differs however from Lord Bathurst's in having a flat knob to the cover, and in detail of the repoussé work with which it is adorned. It is inscribed :—*The Gift of John Crispin to y^e Trinnitie house of Hull who dy'd y^e 3^d of Octo: in y^e yeare 1680 y^e same yeare he was Warden.* On the flat knob of the cover are the initials J.C. Height 4, diameter 4, or with handles, 8, of base 3. Cover, height $1\frac{1}{2}$, diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$.

There are no hall marks.

Another caudle cup is of a different character; the lower part of the cup, and the cover, are divided vertically into six divisions by straight bands of flat strap work; in each of these divisions is a flat flower with conventional foliage, the space surrounding it being deadened or frosted; the handle to the cover is a very short truncated cone, much like the stem of a rude seventeenth century paten. The handles are light and bent gracefully with a double curve, the head of a female on each, serving for a kind of thumbpiece. (Plate XII.)

The cup is inscribed :—*The gift of a friend and Bro: of the house John Blenkarne.* And on the underside is a note of the weight :—w^t $16^{\text{oz}}\frac{1}{2}$. Height 4, diameter 4, with handles about 8, of base $3\frac{1}{2}$. Cover, height $1\frac{1}{2}$, diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Four hall marks (grouped on the base) (1) and (2) shield of three crowns (3) and (4) E.M. repeated (Kingston-upon-Hull, circa 1665-1680.)

This caudle cup is a striking piece of work, with much originality of design, reflecting favourably on the Hull silversmith who made it.

Trinity House Hull Plate



HUMBER FLAGON



BLENKARNE CAUDLE CUP

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The remaining caudle cup is also a piece of local work, and is similarly a credit to the Hull silversmiths, who seem in many cases to have produced work in advance of the provincial craftsmen in other parts, Norwich excepted. This cup is without a cover; it is richly repoussé (except the upper rim) with conventional tulips and Lent lilies. On the rim are incised the initials $s^F A$, and on the corresponding place on the other side of the rim, R.F.

Height 3, diameter $3\frac{1}{4}$, or with handles 6.

It was the gift to the Hull Trinity House of Cecilia Fawcett.

Three hall marks on the base:—(1) Shield with three crowns. (2) T.H. (3) Shield with three crowns (Kingston-upon-Hull *circa* 1660-1680).

The two small porringers are a pair; they are embossed all over, the centre of the cup as a rose, with six petals conventionally treated, the sides with conventional rose and vine.

They are each inscribed:—*thee gift of Mr. John Rawson, a master of this house.*

Height $2\frac{1}{2}$, diameter of mouth $3\frac{1}{4}$, or with handles about 6, of the bases $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Four hall marks:—(1) G S. with a crosier between the letters. (2) leop. hd. cr. (3) lion P.G. (4) damaged A. (London, 1658).

The caudle cups, it may be noticed in passing, are called in the inventory of plate, "Spanish Cups." I am not aware of the explanation of this name for them.

TANKARDS.

THE "HUMBER" FLAGON.

The most important and interesting of these is the fine tankard commemorating the launch of the "Humber," which is recorded by the inscription on it. The tankard is drum shaped, rather smaller at the top than at the base; the lid is slightly raised in gadroons; the thumbpiece is formed of two dolphins addorsed, their tails being interlaced; the handle is thick and curved out to some distance from the barrel. (Plate XII.) About a quarter of the way down the barrel or drum is a raised band of cable molding, and for about a third of the height from the base is a series of curved flutings and gadroons. The centre of the barrel is left plain, and in the middle of this is engraved a crowned shield of the ensigns armorial of the kingdom, surrounded by a band containing the motto of the Order of the Garter; and on each side, the royal initials, W.M. (in monogram) and R. The ensigns armorial are quarterly:—*1st and 4th, France and England quarterly. 2nd, Scotland. 3rd, Ireland. Nassau on an escutcheon of pretence.* On either side of this central device is engraved the following inscription:—*At the Launching their Ma^{ties} ship the Humber March 30, 1693. Built at Hasel Cliffs by Mr. John Frame Burthen 1205 Tuns. Men 490. Guns 80.*

Height 8.

Diameter at top, $5\frac{1}{2}$, at base, $6\frac{1}{4}$.

Four hall marks :—(1) T.L. (2) lion P.G. (3) leop. hd. cr. (4) small black letter P. (London, 1692.)

THE MERCHANT TAILORS' FLAGON.

This tankard, which originally belonged to the now dissolved Merchant Tailors' Company, of Hull, is a plain tankard with a flat lid, having a broad brim overlapping the drum, a high thumbpiece and curved handle, but no spout. On the front of the drum is engraved an elaborate shield of arms of the Hull Merchant Tailors, with supporters and mantlings, viz :—*A royal tent between two parliament robes, on a chief a lion passant guardant. Crest :—a lamb passant holding a staff with banner all within a glory. Supporters, two camels. Beneath is the motto, Concordia parvæ res crescunt, and also, Ebenezer Robson Warden.* Round the rim is a further inscription :—*This interesting Relic of the Ancient Guild of Merchant Tailors of Hull was presented by George Hall Esqr an Elder Brother of this Corporation 1860.*

Height to top of thumbpiece 7, diameter of top $4\frac{1}{2}$, of base 5.

Four hall marks in a line on the lid, and similarly on the barrel in the usual position :—(1) Shield of three crowns. (2) E.M. (3) Capital italic F. (4) Shield of three crowns (Kingston-upon-Hull, circa 1665-1680.)

THE LEAMON FLAGON.

This is a very handsome tankard, entirely covered with repoussé work. The drum is repoussé with three cartouches, in and between which are lilies and tulips. There is no spout, and the handle has the upper part curved in a direction downwards from the lid, forming an angle with the lower half. On the top of the lid is a circular space within a wreath, on this are engraved the initials ^{L. M.}_{R. G.} ^{L.}_{L.}

There is no further inscription, but the tankard was given by George Leamon to the Trinity House.

Height $6\frac{1}{2}$, diameter at top $4\frac{1}{2}$, at base $5\frac{1}{2}$.

There are three very small hall marks. What they are it is not very easy to decide, except that they are of some foreign goldsmiths' hall. The tankard is certainly not English, but perhaps French.

THE BUNNEY FLAGON.

This is a tun-shaped flagon, with a domed lid, curved handle, but no spout. The upper part of the barrel is chased with a border of vine leaves and fruit running round the rim, the lower part is gadrooned. It bears the following long inscriptions :—*Presented by the British Factory of St. Petersburg to Capt^m William Bunney for his exertions and example in cutting a passage through the ice on the 12th. of November, 1797, O.S. And,*

Bequeathed to the Corporation of the Trinity House Hull by William Bunney Esquire their Secretary. The Board here record their appreciation of his faithful zealous and valuable services during a

period of upwards of 30 years and also their admiration of him as a man remarkable for ability indomitable perseverance great strength of mind and firm determination of character invariably controlled by integrity of purpose and true nobility of soul 1849.

Height 9, diameter at mouth $4\frac{1}{2}$, at base $4\frac{3}{8}$.

There are no hall marks, it is foreign and presumably of Russian workmanship.

THE PECK FLAGON.

This remaining tankard is a curious looking vessel, it is quite plain and without moldings, the lid is a flat piece of silver, hinged to the body of the vessel, which has a plain curved handle but no spout.

It is inscribed—*The gift of m^r william peck an elder brother of this trenetie house and Sometimes one of the wardens September the 11 day 1639*

Height 6, diameter at top $3\frac{1}{2}$, at base $4\frac{1}{2}$.

Four hall marks:—(1) the maker well known, (see *Old English Plate*, p. 320, the maker of Bainbrigge Alms Dish, Christ's Coll., Camb., of 1635, where the mark is figured). (2) leop. hd. cr. (3) lion P.G. (4) small A. (London, 1638.)

MONTEITH.

This is a fine vessel, of the usual type, with lion masks from which the hinged handles depend; the bowl is fluted, and the edge of the foot gadrooned. The movable rim has eight female faces or masks.

On a small space on one side is an oval shield, charged with a saltire between four martlets, and in a corresponding space on the other side, is engraved a monogram, of the letters S.C. interlinked.

The vessel is inscribed:—*The Gift of Sam^l Clayton Esq son of Mr Jⁿ Clayton deceased to the Trinity House in Hull 30 Octob^r 1728*

Height 6, diameter 10, of foot $6\frac{3}{4}$, movable rim (fitting inside) diameter $9\frac{1}{2}$, height $2\frac{1}{2}$.

Four hall marks:—(1) Re (black letters). (2) Brit. (3) lion's hd. er. (4) Court hand N (London 1708. John Read).

WINE BOWLS.

These are much alike and plain, they have large wide bowls, short splayed stems, and molded edges to the rims of the bowls and feet.

Height $7\frac{1}{4}$, diameter of bowls 11, of feet $7\frac{1}{2}$.

One of them is inscribed:—*Bought and given to this Corporation by the Wardens Elder Bretheren and Assistants thereof December 1742.*

The hall marks however prove it to be older than this, they are four in number, viz.:—(1) G.A. (2) lion's hd. er. (3) Brit. (4) Capital Roman A (London, 1716. William Gamble).

The other of the bowls is inscribed:—*A Legacy by Mr James Frank As a Token of his Esteem For this Corporation of which he was an Elder Brother 8th May 1804.*

The hall marks are:—London, 1804.

PLATES.

There are two ordinary plain silver plates of some age. The larger of them is inscribed in a scroll space on the rim :—*The gift of Richard Lyndall Elder Brother of this fraternity.*

Diameter 10½.

Four hall marks :—(1) S.M. (2) leopard. hd. cr. (3) lion P.G. (4) Capital Old English S (London, 1675).

The other plate is inscribed in a space with stiff feather mantling on either side :—1668 *The Gift of Mr William Raikes A Senior Brother of this house.*

Diameter 10.

Four hall marks :—(1) I.G. (2) leopard. hd. cr. (3) lion P.G. (4) Capital Old English L (London, 1668).

SPOONS.

There are several seal-headed spoons, which are worthy of notice. It is perhaps remarkable that in so large a collection of plate, there is not a single Apostle Spoon. Of the seal-headed spoons there is a set of twelve; each has the letters T.F. (Thomas Ferris,) pounced on the flat seal heads or knobs; they are the usual type of spoon prevailing, as Mr. Cripps (*Old English Plate*, p. 198) observes, from 1585 to about 1620, and correspond generally with the illustration he gives (No. 1 p. 199).

Length 6¾.

Ten of the twelve have the four following hall marks. (1) leopard. hd. cr. in the "spoonself." (2) the maker C. enclosing W. (3) lion P.G. (4) Lombardic K (London, 1607), the second, third and fourth marks being on the backs of the shanks. The two other spoons have a different maker's mark, a capital Roman D with a C within it, and the Lombardic M for the year 1609.

Another set comprises five spoons, they are similar to the others, except that the knobs to the shanks are smaller. On the flat seal head of each, are the initials L^SC.

Length 6¼.

They have each three hall marks. (1) IC in the "spoonself" (2) the same mark repeated. (3) a capital Roman H, these two latter marks being on the back of the shank of the spoon, (Kingston-upon-Hull, circa 1585-1610).

Two other seal-headed spoons are each about 6½ in length; they have larger knobs, more like the Ferris Spoons.

On one of them are the initials F^BE.

This spoon has three hall marks :—(1) Three crowns in the "spoonself" stamped upside down. (2) R.R. (3) Capital Roman H; these two latter being on the back of the shank, (Kingston-upon-Hull, circa 1620-1640).

The remaining spoon has engraved on the back of the "spoonself" the initials S.F.

It bears three hall marks :—(1) C.W. upside down in the "spoonself." (2) C.W. repeated. (3) Capital Roman H; the two latter

being on the back of the shank, (Kingston-upon-Hull, early 17th Century).

TOBACCO BOXES.

There are two of these ; one of them is a circular box, with a molded and raised lid, which terminates in a rudely developed knob.

It is inscribed :—*The Gift of Mr Richard Beatniffe to the Trinity House of Hull Anno 1736.*

Height 6, diameter 5.

Four hall marks :—(1) I.E. (2) lion P.G. (3) leap. hd. cr. (4) small Roman A (London, 1736, John Edwards).

The other tobacco box is much smaller ; it is a plain oval box, with a plain lid slightly arched upwards. On the lid is inscribed :—*Domus Trinitatis 1697*, and the initials T and R (in monogram) and L.

Diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Three hall marks on the inside at the bottom :—(1) Shield with three crowns. (2) K.M. in shaped shield. (3) Shield with three crowns (Kingston-upon-Hull, circa 1690).

In concluding these notes, I must not omit to acknowledge the kind help I have received from Mr. E. S. Wilson, the secretary ; Mr. Park, the Wardens' clerk ; and Mr. E. J. Heseltine, one of the junior clerks of the Hull Trinity House. In a future paper I shall hope to be able to enter into the interesting question of the Hull hall mark, of which so many examples occur in this fine collection of plate.

The Friar-Preachers, or Blackfriars, of Bristol.

BY THE REV. C. F. R. PALMER.

SPEAKING of Brightstow, or Bristol, Leland says, "The Blacke Friers stode a litle highar then the Gray on From in the right Ripe of it, Ser Maurice Gaunt, elder Brother to Ser Henry Gaunt, Foundar of the Gaunts, was Foundar of this." William Wyrcestre also mentions Matthew de Gurney as one of the founders.¹ This Maurice de Gaunt was the son of Robert de Berkeley, by his wife Alice, daughter of Robert de Gaunt, assumed the family name of his mother, was lord of Beverstone, and one of the most powerful barons of his time. His relationship as uncle of Robert de Gourney, probably affords a clue to Matthew de Gourney's beneficence to this religious house. The commencement of the priory dates as early as the year 1227 or 1228. Sir Maurice de Gaunt died in 1230, and when he was buried at Bristol, his obsequies were celebrated first at the abbey

¹ Leland's Itinerary, vol. vii.

² Wyrcestre, Itinerarium.

church of St. Augustin, and then at the oratory which the friars had set up, where his sepulture took place. In this same year, and it may be on this very occasion, the Bishop of Worcester came to dedicate the altar or churchyard of the friars; and the Benedictine monks of St. James's Priory, in whose parish the friars had settled, availed themselves of the occasion to appeal against the dedication of the place, and against the friars having oblations, burials or other obventions, in prejudice of the charters, privileges, and confirmations of bishops, conferred on their church. But, for all that, says the annalist of Tewkesbury Abbey, to which St. James's Priory was a cell, neither did the bishop desist from the dedication, nor the friars from building or receiving obventions, to the prejudice and damage of the church of St. James.³ The burial ground attached to the first temporary oratory was enlarged when the king, Dec. 18th, 1232, granted a licence for the friars to add fifteen feet in breadth in the whole length of it "*de placia illa, que est juxta eorum cimiterium versus aquilonem*;" and this was done in consequence of the favourable inquisition made by the bailiffs of the town, who now had a mandate to permit execution.⁴

The length of time employed in the erection of the permanent church and priory may be surmised from the donations of Henry III. towards the fabric. These gifts extended over a period of forty years, and consisted of timber all taken, except where it is otherwise stated here, out of the royal Forest of Dean. Four oaks, for shingles, May 10th, 1233;⁵ ten oaks out of Furches wood, which, May 25th, 1240, the sheriff of Gloucestershire was ordered to fell and carry to the friars' house, at the royal expense;⁶ ten oaks for timber, Feb. 2nd, 1240-1, which the constable of St. Briavell's was to fell, carpenter, and carry to Bristol;⁷ ten oaks, May 1st, 1242, which on the same day, the sheriff of Gloucestershire was ordered to fell and carry to Bristol;⁸ seven oaks, with all branches and escheats, Mar. 5th, 1243-4, and the constable of St. Briavell's to fell and carry them to the friars' house;⁹ six oaks, with escheats, for the fabric of the church, Jan. 2nd, 1244-5, and the sheriff of Gloucestershire to carry them to Bristol;¹⁰ six oaks for the works of the church, Oct. 17th, 1249;¹¹ four oaks for timber, with all escheats, June 26th, 1250;¹² thirty oaks out of Kingeswoode outside Bristol, for timber for the works, Aug. 18th, 1252, and next day, the Bailiffs of Bristol had a precept to carry them to the friars' house;¹³ six oaks for timber, with escheats, July 10th,

³ Annales de Theokesberia, fol. 21b; Cotton MSS. Cleopatra, A 7.

⁴ Pat. 17 Hen. III. m. 8.

⁵ Claus. 17 Hen. III. m. 2.

⁶ Rot. Liberat. 24 Hen. III. m. 12.

⁷ Ibid. 25 Hen. III. m. 17.

⁸ Claus. 26 Hen. III. p. 1, m. 3. Rot. Liberat. 26 Hen. III. p. 1, m. 4.

⁹ Rot. Liberat. 28 Hen. III. m. 13.

¹⁰ Ibid. 29 Hen. III. m. 13.

¹¹ Claus. 33 Hen. III. m. 2.

¹² Ibid. 34 Hen. III. m. 10.

¹³ Ibid. 36 Hen. III. m. 6. Rot. Liberat. 36 Hen. III. m. 4.

1255;¹⁴ five oaks for timber with escheats, July 17th, 1256;¹⁵ four oaks for timber, with escheats, May 8th, 1259;¹⁶ four oaks fit for timber, Sep. 4th, 1260;¹⁷ and six oaks fit for timber, out of the forest of Melkesham, May 28th, 1263.¹⁸ John de Plessetis, who became Earl of Warwick in 1247, was also a benefactor. He gave six oaks out of his wood within the forest of Den, and the king, Mar. 26th, 1246, ordered the sheriff of Gloucestershire to fell and carry them to Bristol, at the royal expense;¹⁹ afterwards, in the same year, other six oaks out of the same wood, and Nov. 21st, the sheriff had a similar mandate directed to him;²⁰ and in 1249, twelve more oaks, and the king, Sept. 23rd, ordered the bailiff of St. Briavell's to let the friars take them without hindrance of chiminage.²¹

William Wyrcestre, a native of Bristol, who was also called Botoner from his mother's family, gives, in his *Itinerarium*, the following dimensions and particulars of the buildings as they existed about the year 1479, and were, in all likelihood, substantially the same as those erected in the time of Henry III.

Bristollicæ.

"Chorus ecclesiæ fratrum predicatorum continet 45 gressus.

"Clastrum eorum ex omnibus 4 partibus continet 40 gressus. (100 feet).

"Ecclesia fratrum predicatorum in Marshall-strete.

"Longitudo chori ecclesiæ fratrum predicatorum continet 26 virgas vel 44 gressus. (110 feet).

"Latitudo chori continet 8 virgas vel 14 gressus. (35 feet).

"Longitudo navis ecclesiæ continet 31 virgas vel 58 gressus. (145 feet).

"Latitudo ejusdem continet 21 virgas vel 34 gressus." (85 feet).²²

Elsewhere it appears that the church had two aisles, which Wyrcestre has evidently included in the nave. There was a tower, probably with the two traditional bells; but "the steeple was cast down, in 1540, by the roar of the great gun of the Castle, just beyond the moat of which, and within speaking distance of the warders on the walls, the Priory Church was situate."²³ In the churchyard was a large cross erected by William Curteys.

Once only does it appear that the friars enlarged their demesnes. After the escheator of Gloucestershire had made a favourable inquisition, a royal license was granted, May 2nd, 1362, for Walter

¹⁴ Claus. 39 Hen. III. p. 1, m. 7.

¹⁵ Ibid. 40 Hen. III. m. 6.

¹⁶ Ibid. 43 Hen. III. m. 10.

¹⁷ Ibid. 44 Hen. III. p. 1, m. 5.

¹⁸ Ibid. 47 Hen. III. m. 6.

¹⁹ Rot. Liberat. 30 Hen. III. m. 15.

²⁰ Ibid. 31 Hen. III. m. 14.

²¹ Claus. 33 Hen. III. m. 3.

²² Wyrcestre, *ut supra*.

²³ Taylor's Dominicans and Dominican Priory (of Bristol). These religious were often called the *Castle Friars*.

Frompton and Richard Spicer to grant them two acres of land for enlarging their homestead. The land was held of the crown in burgage by service of 4s. 4½d. a year, paid in aid of the fee-farm of Bristol, which had been granted for life to Queen Philippa; and the friars were to answer the same to the queen, and after her to the crown.²⁴

The royal license was granted, Dec. 18th, 1232, for the friars to make and have a conduit to their house, "de fonte qui est de Burton Regis apud Bristoll, et vocatur Pamwell;" and the constable of Bristol had a mandate to allow it.²⁵ This grant was confirmed Feb. 11th, 1376-7, by Edward III., for the fine of half-a-mark;²⁶ and Sept. 4th, 1384, by Richard II. for the same fine.²⁷ In this grant, followed by the confirmations, it is called Pamwell, but *that* was probably a clerly oversight for Paniwell, which has been modernised into Pennywell. In 1391 the friars made an exchange with the town, whereby they got a good supply of water without the expense and trouble of keeping a conduit in repair. With the consent of the provincial, a composition was entered into, June 16th, whereby Thomas Knaper, mayor, and the commonalty of the town gave to NICHOLAS SALTFOED, prior, and to the convent, the pipe called "Fether," the size of an assized swan's quill, issuing from the middle of the town pipe near the Bars, which had its head close to the mill called Glaspelmull, and ran to the *keypipe* of the town. The friars were not to pay anything towards the keeping up of the conduit, of which the costs were to fall wholly on the town; and they were to have sufficient water in the barrell there before accustomed to be used, and over the barrell a stone arch was to be built at their expense. In return, the friars granted to the town their conduit, with the spring called Penywell, and all lead pipes between the spring and their garden, rendering therefor 12d. sterling to the prior of St. James's. But if thereafter the friars were hindered in the use of the feather with the arch, or the town in the use of the conduit, they were to have back, the friars their old conduit and Penywell, and the town the feather and arch. This agreement received the royal ratification Aug. 18th following.²⁸

A certain friar-preacher returned from the Holy Land, in 1249, and brought with him a stone of marble, on which, as if impressed in wax, was the form of half a human foot. The inhabitants of the Holy Land averred that it was the foot-print of Christ just as he was rising to ascend into heaven, and the stone was held in great veneration, as the last trace of our Lord upon earth. It was placed at first in this convent; but the friars made a present of it to their royal benefactor, Henry III., who gave it to the Abbey of Westminster, "wherinne the day of the writyng of this," says Robert of Gloucester,

²⁴ Pat. 36 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 13.

²⁵ Pat. 17 Hen. III. m. 8.

²⁶ Pat. 51 Ed. III. m. 36. Rot. orig. 51 Edw. III. ro. 26.

²⁷ Pat. 8 Rich. II. p. 1, m. 25. Rot. orig. 8 Rich. II. ro. 36.

²⁸ Pat. 15 Rich. II. p. 1, m. 24.

in his Chronicle, "hit is holde worshipfulle."²⁹ Probably this foot-mark was copied from one of those still on the summit of Mount Olivet, and obtained the reputation of being what it only represented. So the *vestigia Domini* now in the floor of the little church of S. Maria delle Palme, commonly called *Domine, quo vadis*, on the Appian way, near Rome, are fac-similes of those in a chapel of the neighbouring basilica of S. Sebastiano.

In its earlier years, Henry III. aided the community with gifts of fuel and money. In way of fuel, he let them have, Oct. 31st, 1234, seven *fusta*;³⁰ June 29th, 1236, fifteen *robora*;³¹ the mandate being repeated Dec. 12th following, if they had not been already received;³² and Oct. 30th, 1237, seven *robora*;³³ all these being out of Furches wood. Mar. 5th, 1260-1, four *robora*, out of the forest of Dene.³⁴ Moreover, as an act of charity, and to enable the friars to pay their debts, this king gave to them, June 18th, 1251, twenty-one marks out of the royal exchequer, being the balance of thirty-six marks, which Henry de Gaunt, *custos* of the Hospital of St. Mark, Bristol, owed to the crown for several amercements.³⁵

Edward I. being at Bristol, Sep. 25th, 1293, gave six leafless *robora* out of the Forest of Dene, for fuel.³⁶ The executors of Queen Eleanor of Castile, shortly after Michaelmas, 1291, gave 100s. for this convent to F. William de Hotham, provincial, through Robert de Middleton.³⁷ Mary, daughter of Edward I. and Eleanor of Castile, being a nun of Amesbury, made a pilgrimage to Bristol, in May, 1304, where she arrived on Saturday, the 23rd; and when she left the town, on the 25th, she gave 20s. in pittance to the friar-preachers and friar-minors here.³⁸

By letters-patent of Richard II., dated June 24th, 1395, the friars obtained the grant of the moiety of the prizes of fish at Bristol appertaining to the crown, for the aid and maintenance of their house.³⁹ This gift was confirmed by Henry VII., Nov. 30th, 1502,⁴⁰ and by Henry VIII., May 12th, 1510,⁴¹ both times for a fine of half a mark.

The provincial chapters were periodically celebrated at this priory; but only three occasions come under special notice. In 1302, Edward I., July 18th, gave ten leafless *robora* out of Kyngsewode, for fuel at the friars' general chapter here, on the feast of the Assumption.⁴² In 1323, Edward II. gave 15*l.*, June 20th, through F. John

²⁹ Matth. Paris. Trivitt. John de Oxenedes. Robert of Gloucester, Chron.

³⁰ Claus. 19 Hen. III. p. 1, m. 26.

³¹ Ibid. 20 Hen. III. m. 9.

³² Ibid. 21 Hen. III. m. 19.

³³ Ibid. 22 Hen. III. m. 23.

³⁴ Claus. 45 Hen. III. m. 15.

³⁵ Ibid. 35 Hen. III. m. 10.

³⁶ Ibid. 21 Edw. I. m. 3.

³⁷ Rot. (garder.) liberat. pro regina (etc.) 19-20 Edw. I.

³⁸ Rot. garder. (Expensæ dnæ Mariæ, fil. Regis, etc.) 32 Edw. I.

³⁹ Pat. 19 Rich. II. p. 2, m. 35.

⁴⁰ Pat. 18 Hen. VII. p. 2, m. 7 (24). Rot. orig. 18 Hen. VII. ro. 100.

⁴¹ Pat. 2 Hen. VIII. p. 1, m. 12 (10).

⁴² Claus. 30 Edw. I. m. 10.

de Tykenhale, for the food of the fathers, who were to assemble at Bristol, on the Assumption;⁴³ and Aug. 9th, the usual writ *De orando pro rege*, etc., was issued.⁴⁴ In 1343, after the chapter had been held here, the royal gift of 15*l.* for food was paid, Nov. 18th, 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, Feb. 28th following, 8*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*⁴⁵

William Wyrcestre gives interesting extracts from the martyrology of this house.

"In martirologio kalendarii fratrum predicatorum Bristollie."

"Joannes Vielle armiger, primus vicecomes Bristollie, obiit 29 die marcii.

"Walterus Frampton, obiit die 2 januarii.

"Wilelmus Curteys, qui fecit fieri magnam crucem in cimiterio, die 2 aprilis.

"Ricardus Spicer mercator obiit primo die junii.

"Henricus rex tertius obiit 4 die junii.

"Edwardus primogenitus Edwardi tercii obiit 7 die junii.

"Edwardus rex tercius obiit 23 die junii.

"Edwardus rex secundus de Kaernarvan obiit die 2 Augusti.

"Mattheus de Gurnay obiit 28 die augusti, unus fundatorum fratrum predicatorum.

"Domina Matilda Denys, quæ obiit die . . octobris anno Christi 1422.

"Dominus Mauricius de Berkley, et domina Johanna uxor ejus, q' jacet in choro in sinistra altaris, die primo octobris.

"Dominus Wilelmus Dawbeny miles, qui jacet in choro.

"Cor domini Roberti de Gornay jacet in ista ecclesia, qui obiit die 20 novembris.

"Dominus Ancelinus de Gurnay, qui jacet in choro, die 15 novembris.

"Dominus Mauricius Berkley miles obiit 26 die novembris.

"1429. Frater Wilelmus Botoner obiit die 15 decembris.

"Edwardus primus rex Angliæ obiit die 17 decembris."

"Explicit."

Wyrcestre also mentions, "Mauricius Berkley chevalier, dominus castri de Beverstone, obiit 5 die Maii post annum Christi 1466."⁴⁶ Sheriffs of Bristol were first appointed in 1372, and Vielle held the office in that and the following year. Frampton and Spicer gave the land in 1362. Robert de Gorney died in 1268, and Anselm de Gurney, in 1286. The "obiit" attached to each king must mark the day on which the respective *obits* or anniversaries were kept at this convent, otherwise as dates of death they are mostly incorrect.

Most of these benefactors were buried within these consecrated

⁴³ Rot. exit. scac. pasch. 16 Edw. II. m. 5.

⁴⁴ Claus. 17 Edw. II. m. 41 d.

⁴⁵ Rot. exit. scac. mich. 18 Edw. III. m. 14, 38.

⁴⁶ Wyrcestre, *ut supra*.

precincts. To the list may be added other donors and burials from testamentary sources. *Godfrey Giffard*, bishop of Worcester, Sep. 13th, 1301, bequeathed 40s. to the friar-preachers of Bristoll.⁴⁷ *Vincent de Barnastapolia*, by will dated at Bristoll, Aug. 26th, 1336, proved Dec. 7th, 1339, and exemplified by royal letters patent, May 5th, 1341, bequeathed 10s. to the friars. *Sir Herbert de Sancto Quintino*, knt., by will of May 17th, 1347, *pr.* July 10th, following, bequeathed 6s. 8d. stirring to the friar-preachers of Bristoll. *Ralph de Salop*, bishop of Bath and Wells, May 12th, 1363, ordered the residue of his goods to be divided into three parts, the second of which he devised to religious men, as the friar-preachers, minors, carmelites, and augustinians of Exeter, Bridgewater, Bristol, and Ilchester. *John Wytloff*, rector of Loddiswell, by will dated at Bristol, Mar. 6th, 1404-5, and *pr.* Apr. 5th, following, desired to be buried in the church of the friar-preachers here, and bequeathed to the convent 40s. for the work of their church, and 40s. to ROGER WINTERBOURNE, prior of the convent. *Sir William Boneville* chr. by will of Aug. 13th, 1407, *pr.* Mar. 24th, 1408-9, bequeathed 7l. 10s. to the friars, austins, preachers, and minors of Bristuit, i.e. 50s. to each. *William lord Botreaux* (who died in 1462) by his will dated July 20th, 1415, bequeathed 40s. to the friar-preachers here. *Nicholas Bubwith*, bishop of Bath and Wells, Oct. 5th, 1424, bequeathed fifty marks to be distributed among the four orders of friars, viz. the friar-preachers, minors, augustinians and carmelites of London, Iwelcestr, Briggewater, and Bristol.⁴⁸

In digging for the foundations of some buildings on the site of this convent, in 1748, a remarkable tombstone was brought to light again, of which Barrett has given an engraving in his history of Bristol. It was an incised slab, having depicted on it a vine in the form of a cross, issuing from a lamb standing, and at the intersection of the cross, a *veronica*, or face of our Lord.⁴⁹ From these Eucharistic symbols the stone evidently covered the grave of a priest. The true reading of the inscription appears to be, + REYNALD ... TOLDE : GIST : ICI : DEV : DE SA ALME E(yt pi)T(ie et) M'CI :— REYNALD *Bar?* TOLD LIES HERE, GOD ON HIS SOUL HAVE PITY AND MERCY. The lettering of the right margin was unfortunately lost. In 1824, in digging on the site, three stone coffins were discovered, containing the skeletons of two males and one female.

David Wydyr, a burgess of Athenry, in Ireland, was at Bristol on his return from Flanders when he died; and on account of his affection for the order of St. Dominic, he chose the convent of the friar-preachers here for his place of sepulture. He was accordingly buried in the convent, clad in the habit of the brethren; and the convent received 20l. for the good estate of his soul. Afterwards his widow Jane de Wfflor had his remains transferred to the Dominican

⁴⁷ Thomas's Survey of the Cathedral Church of Worcester.

⁴⁸ Pat. 15 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 14. Testamenta Ebor. Reg. Episc. Bathen et Well. Reg. epis. Exon. (Stafford): Hingeston Randolph. Nicolas, Test. Vet.

⁴⁹ Barrett.

house at Athenry, which she did with exceeding honour and at great expense, through F. Thomas Nasse, lector of that house.⁵⁰ This incident occurred probably between the year 1420 and 1430.

In the time of Henry III. the religious of this convent were much engaged in preaching and forwarding the crusades. In order to remove a great fear, which had spread far and wide, the king made a promise that no one who had taken the cross or purposed to do so, should be made to pay a greater sum of money for the redemption of his vow than he promised in assuming the cross. The letters patent containing this royal engagement, dated Jan 17th, 1250-1, were committed to the charge of F. ROBERT DE ALDESWORTH, prior of the friar-preachers of Bristol.⁵¹ In the general chapter of the Order held at London, in 1314, the prior here was one of the eight superiors, who were absolved from office, and were declared incapable of re-election.⁵² Two priors, in 1391 and 1405, have been already mentioned, and a religious in 1429. F. John Gacopath, May 29th, 1491, had leave from the master-general of the Order, to be plenarily absolved four times a year, to receive alms, etc., was dispensed from the severities of the Order, and was allowed *ad libitum*, with a companion, to visit his parents.⁵³

On the first and third Sundays in Advent, it was customary for the mayor and sheriff, with their brethren, to walk to the friar-preachers, and there hear their sermon.⁵⁴ When the troubles of the Reformation fell upon the country, Hugh Latimer preached the new doctrines to the people of Bristol. In the afternoon of the second Sunday in Lent, in 1532 or 1533, he delivered in the church of the Blackfriars one of three sermons, which he gave on that day and the Monday following, and caused no small strife and debate. He maintained that in hell there is no sensible fire; that souls in purgatory have no need of our prayers, but rather might pray for us; he spoke vehemently against pilgrimages and worship of saints and images, and asserted that the Blessed Virgin Mary was a sinner. JOHN HILSEY was then prior of the blackfriars here, and with Dr. Powell, Master Goodryche, Master Heberdyne, and the prior of St. James's, set about to preach against the innovator, "app'vyng purgatory, pylgremags, y^e wurshyppynge off seynts & ymags; alsoe approvyng y^e feythe wythe owte good wurks ys but deade, & y^e ower Lady, beyng full off grace, ys & was wythe owtte y^e spott off syn'e. But whe' we had dun'e," he continued in his letter to the chancellor, "I reken wee labroyd but y^e vay', & browht y^e peple yn greter dyvysyon the' they ware, as they doe hytherto co'tynewe. I beseeke god to helpe hytt, for ower kecynge owne agent a' oth' ys nott fruttfull, neth' takythe ony effecte. For sens I have com'unyd wythe master Lattymar, & I have harde hyme preache, & have

⁵⁰ Reg. monast. Fr. Præd. de Athenry: Old MSS. of Brit. Mus. no. 4784.

⁵¹ Pat. 35 Hen. III. m. 13.

⁵² Acta cap. gen.

⁵³ Reg. mag. gen. Romæ.

⁵⁴ Toulmin Smith: English Guilds.

y'tyle hys s'mon sentens for sentens, & I have p'cevyd y^t hys mynd ys myche more agenst y^e abusynge off thyngs the' agenst y^e thynges hytt selfe. . . . & yff he (q^d absit) shoulde here after sey ony thyng y^t shoulde sowne (*sound*) oth'wyse the' the catholycall determynaçon of y^e chyrche, ther wilbe Inowhe (*enough*) y^t wylbe redy to note hyt wythe more dylygens the' hyther to." ⁵⁵ Yet very shortly Hilsey was won over to the court party, and vehemently denounced the doctrines which he now upheld. He was appointed provincial of his Order by the king, in 1534, and executed, with the utmost zeal, the royal commission for reducing the mendicant orders to the obedience of the temporal sovereign; in 1535, he was rewarded with the see of Rochester. To him succeeded at Bristol F. WILLIAM OLIVER, who, whilst prior of Cambridge, in 1534, had signalled himself as a supporter of the supremacy of the pope, whereby he drew down upon himself denunciation by Cranmer, and removal by Cromwell. The eye of the government was fixed on him as a suspected man; he was shortly taken to task for a sermon he preached at Bristol, and by a royal commission, the mayor, May 7th, 1537, in the guild-hall, took the evidence of more than forty-six witnesses concerning the religious opinions he then broached. But from the whole of the evidence, it is clear that there was nothing that would now be blamed beyond a coarseness of language, which was universal in his day. "Firste concernynge justification he saide that faithe alone justifieth . . . and that a man cowlde not frutfully work before he were Justified by faithe in Chryst. And that he so justified most nedis worke . . . and that this faithe cowlde no lesse be vnproffitable or w^out workynge than the Sonne withoute his beames or light, Nor as the good tree or freshe grene plantt cowlde nat chose, but nedis brynge furthe good frute. Evyn so myght not faithe be voyde or barreyn without good works. . . . And concernynge the confydence they had yn habits, Cerymones and other theyre humane constituçons and tradycyons, he sayde that, althoughe one had x carte lode of Cowles or freers habits, whethir they were of Frauncis Ordre or of saynt Domynykes, of the whiche he was one hymselfe; And that yf that myght do good, he thowth his ordre one of theldest yn England: yett cowlde not avayle without faythe, nor a hool Shippe laden with Freers gyrdells; nor a donge Cartfull of monks Cowles and bots wolde not helpe to justification." ⁵⁶ The prior lost his office again, and probably fled.

In executing his commission, Hilsey arrived at Bristol, June 9th, 1534, and secured the submission of the friars that still remained. The greater part of the community abandoned their convent, and their country too, till at last there was only a prior, with four subjects, to represent this ancient and once honourable house. The suffragan bishop of Dover, who suppressed most of the houses of mendicant friars in England and Wales, whilst on his tour of destruction, visited Bristol, July 28th, 1538, and found, as he wrote

⁵⁵ Orig. letter: Cotton MSS. Cleopatra E. IV. no. 93, fol. 140.

⁵⁶ Orig. Chapter House Papers, 2nd series, no. 66.

to Cromwell, August 27th, from Hereford, "iij conventes yet in Brystowe; as for the Blacke, (they) be redy to gyve up, but the other ij. be styffe and bere them sore be gret favor:" and he begged instructions in the matter. He returned to Bristol, and Sept. 10th received the surrender of the house, sold goods to pay the debts of the community, which amounted to 6*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, committed all that was left into safe custody for the king's use, and departed, enriched with eight score and sixteen ounce of church plate. There was lead to please him, for he reported, "The blak freres in bristowe: two lles in church, iij gutt's bitween the Cloystr & the i'batilme't." The inventory of the remaining goods he sent to Cromwell.⁵⁷

"M^d. We y^e p^{or} and co'uent of y^e blackefryers of brystow w^t one assent and co'sent w^{owt} any man' of coaccyon or co'sell do gyve In to y^e handds of y^e lorde vysytor to y^e kyngs vse desyerynge hys grace to be good & gracyous to vs. In Wyttenes we subscribye ow^r namys w^t ow^r p^{er} handds y^e x day of september In y^e xxx^{te} yere of ow^r most dred sou'en lord kynge Henry ye VIIIth.

THOM^{AS} PAERKER p^{or}.

ROB^{TUS} WELLYS.

JACOBUS ZARMAN.

WYLL^M GARNAR.

RADULFUS DOOLE."

"THE BLACKE FRYERS OF BRYSTOWE.

"Thys Inde't' makeythe me'cyon of all y^e stuffe of y^e blacke fryers of brystowe receyueyd by y^e lorde vysyto' vnd' the lorde p^{vy} seale for the kyngs grace and delyu'ed to robarde wodwarde and John ameryke to se and order to y^e kyngs vse w^t y^e howse & all the porten'nce tyll the kyngs plesur be further knowyn.

The q^r.

- It. a payer of gret candelsteks laten.
- It. a small payer of candelstks laten.
- It. a fayer hangeynge lompe.
- It. a payer of organs.
- It. a holy wat' stope.

The ^{he} sextre.

- It. in p^{mis} xvj copys.
- It. iiij sutys of grene.
- It. iij sutys of blewe.
- It. a sute of whyte.
- It. xij syngle vesteme'ts w^t ther albs.
- It. xiiij amys for copys.
- It. a payer of red curtens.
- It. a payer of whyte & on' grene curten.
- It. iij payer of small curtens.
- It. a rede hangeynge.
- It. a whyte & a grene for y^e hey aut'.

⁵⁷ Cotton MSS. *supra*, no. 160, fol. 251, 263.

It. ij rede frengys.
 It. a whytē & a grene.
 It. ij towels wrowght w^t sylke.
 It. vj surplissys & ij lytyll rochetts for chylthern.
 It. vj aut' clothes.
 It. ix hangyns for y^e low aut'rs.
 It. xv. cop'as casys.
 It. a vayle clothe.
 It. a clothe of sylke to hange befor y^e hey aut'.
 It. ij canapys for y^e sacrame't.
 It. ij pawls for y^e q're.
 It. iij cuschyngs for y^e hey aut'.
 It. for y^e crosse one of veluet.
 It. a nother of sylke.
 It. for y^e aut'rs in lent xxij clotheys to cou' the' & y^e ymagys.
 It. a corten of lynyn to draw befor y^e aut'.
 It. a pawl for y^e herse.
 It. ij peynteyd clothes of kyngs & a nother of marys.
 It. a crane for copys.
 It. a brode for copys.
 It. v coffers good and bade.

The chambers.

It. iij fether beds w^t iij bolsters.
 It. ij. cou'yngs.
 It. iij towells vj napkyns.
 It. iij chayers iij carpetts.
 It. ij playne tabulls a cow't'.
 It. ij cupbords.
 It. a gret payer of anndyorns
 It. lytyll payer.
 It. a bason & an ewer w^t a lytyll bason.
 It. iij gret ca'delsteys w^t a lytyll ca'dellsteke.
 It. a hangynge of whyte for a bede.
 It. iij pewt' potts to put flowers in.
 It. ij quart potts pewt'.

The kechyn.

It. iij gret brasse potts and ij lytyll potts w^t a possenet.
 It. a ketell and a lytyll pan.
 It. a brasyn mort' w^t a pestell.
 It. a chaffer v broches ij hengells.
 It. a payer of racks.
 It. a gret charg' v plat's vj dysches of pewt'.
 It. vj potyngers vj sawcers of one sort.
 It. vj platers vj dysches & v sawcers iij co't' fetis.
 It. a treuet & a gredyorn.

M^d. y^e vysytor hathe w^t hym to y^e kyngs vse ij chales a sensor a
 brokyn crosse w^t stonys & yeorn In yt a paxse & ij ca'delsteys all
 weynge as yt ys viij & xvj vnc' & yt ys to be noteyd y^t ther was solde

a vesteme't w^t deco' & subdeco' & one olde syngle vesteme't w^t ij copys for vj^{li}. xvj^s. viij^d. w^t the whyche all detts wer payd & a cou'ynge for xxs. & all payd & no thyng lefte. Also ther be delyu'yd evydens xvj peyseys seleyd and ij vnseleyd & x patents all in a casket. Also xiiij peyseys seleyd in a nother boxse.

P' me ROBERTU' WODWARDE.

P' me JOHN AMERYCKE." ⁵⁸

Thus was the community dispersed and the priory destroyed. The buildings and the lands were let from Lady-day, 1539, to William Chester, of Bristol, merchant, for 57s. 8d. a-year, and were as follows :—

The site of the house, with buildings, gardens, orchards, churchyard, etc., containing 7a. 3r., together with 4s. yearly rent of a garden in the site, late in the holding of Richard Abbingdon; and 6s. 8d. rent of a house and garden in the tenure of John Jerdeyne. ... 40s.

Two closes of land in the Hundred of Henbury, one called Stanley, the other Garrecrofte, together with 1½a. of land in Standfold, let together to John Hodgez, *alias* Heggess, of Hawkingstoke, husbandman, and Margaret his wife, by indenture dated Mar. 7th, 1529-30, for their lives, at the yearly rent of ... 16s.

A void plot of land outside the wall of the orchard of the house, 73 ft. long and 18 ft. broad at the W. end, and 6 ft. at the E. end, let to Francis Stradlinge, esq., Jan. 12th, 1537-8, for fourscore years, at the yearly rent of ... 20d. ⁵⁹

Chester soon bought the site (now said to contain 6a. 3r.), and the void plot outside the orchard wall, with the water-conduit and all other rights, for all which he paid 37*l*. 10s., being at the rate of 18 years' purchase. The royal grant was made June 23rd, 1540, to him and his heirs and assigns for ever, to be held by the twentieth part of a fief and the rent or tenth of 4s. 2d. ⁶⁰ The moiety of the prizes of fish, which the friars held to the last, was granted by royal lease of Mar. 16th, 1539-40 (together with the house and site of the late grey friars and their like prize of fish) to Jeremy Grene, of Bristol, merchant, for 21 years from the last michaelmas, at the yearly rent of 33s. 4d. ⁶¹

The property soon passed into other hands, and fell mostly into the possession of the Society of Friends, so as to be commonly known as "The Quakers' Friars." Here they built their meeting-house, in 1669; established a school in the dormitory, and laid out a burial ground. The Guild of Bakers and the Company of Smiths had halls here; and subsequently the Wesleyan Methodists took part of the buildings for a school.

⁵⁸ Treas. of Rec. of Exch. vol. A. 3: Inventories of Frieries. Ibid. vol. B. 2: Submissions of monasteries, etc.

⁵⁹ Ministers' Accounts, 30-31 Henry VIII. no. 136.

⁶⁰ Pat. 32 Hen. VIII. p. 1, m. 19 (22).

⁶¹ Misc. Books of Court of Aug. vol. ccxii. (enrolment of leases) fol. 110*b*.

The buildings of the priory formed two quadrangles, one, 100 ft. square, being the conventual cemetery; the other, 58 ft. broad, a domestic court. The ruins of the church were standing as late as the year 1749. and possessed "some degree of magnificence." It formed the north side of the large quadrangle, and the principal door for the public must have been at the west end in Merchant Street, whilst the north side ran along Rush Lane, now Rosemary Lane. There are still standing two rectangular buildings, ranging nearly east and west, and almost parallel to each other. The northern and largest one formed the south side of the great quadrangle, and north side of the smaller quadrangle. The upper storey consisted of one unbroken dormitory, 86 ft. 3 in. long, and 23 ft. broad, divided into twelve bays, and lighted by fifteen lancet windows on the north, and formerly by a similar series, but square-headed, in the south wall; the north wall of this building being the original, whilst the south wall has been rebuilt. The west window is of two cinquefoil lights; the east window of three trefoil-headed lights, one with a transom, has been removed from its original position in the east wall of the other building. The roof is as old as the fourteenth century. On the basement floor beneath the dormitory are offices, lighted on the south by double lancet windows, under a single hood-moulding externally, and separated by a slender column within, the apertures in the north wall being blocked up.

The building on the south of the lesser quadrangle is earlier than the other, and is, perhaps, coeval with the foundation of the priory. On the ground floor are the remains of a cloister, which was lighted with windows from the quadrangle, and evidently once communicated with another cloister on the east side, and with domestic offices on the south and the west end of the buildings, in one of which a fire-place and chimney still stand. The upper floor is a room known as the "Baker's Hall," 49 ft. long and 34 ft. broad, lighted by windows on three sides, the east window having been removed. There are remains of a fire-place in the west wall. The roof is only visible in places, but would, it is thought, on thorough exposure, "prove to be one of those examples of Early English carpentry, whose peculiarly rare occurrence render them so much more interesting and valuable." But this building is in a miserable state.⁶²

⁶² Barrett Evans. A description of the remains of the priory as they existed in 1845, with plans, sections, and elevations, was published by the Archaeological Institute, in 1853. See also *Journal of the Archaeological Society*, 1875, vol. xxi. p. 268.

Iron Chest, Londonthorpe.

BY L. GIBBS.

THIS chest (Plate XIII.) is made of iron plates, one eighth of an inch thick, strengthened with bars of the same thickness and about one and a half inches wide, riveted on. On the inside, round the top, is riveted a bar three quarters of an inch square under which the bolts of the lock catch.

By far the most curious part is the lock (Plate XIV.), which is on the underside of the lid. The keyhole is in the centre, hidden by a rosette which is turned away before the key is inserted, to help the deception there is a similar rosette on each intersection of the bars on the lid, and a sham keyhole on the front of the box. The key moves six bolts through a system of levers; it is only used to unlock the chest, the bolts being forced out by springs as soon as the hand is taken off the key. The small rosettes holding the ends of the springs are of copper, the rest of iron.

The chest belongs to Mr. G. P. Watson, of Londonthorpe, near Grantham, in whose family it is known to have been for fifty years.

It would be interesting to know if there are any locks of a like design to which a date can be fixed.

A drawing of a lock with a similar arrangement of levers and springs, from Worstead Church, Norfolk, was published in the *Building News* of Jan. 18th, 1884, and of one from Kidderminster on Feb. 20th, 1885. The former had only four bolts, but was much more elaborately ornamented than that now illustrated. The latter had ten bolts very similarly arranged and ornamented to the one at Londonthorpe, but the chest, though of iron, had quite the appearance of panelled and moulded woodwork.

THE Scarborough Corporation possess a fine and interesting example of these iron chests, which has hitherto escaped any detailed notice. The chest is 21 in. high, 3 ft 5 in. long, and 22 in. wide.

It is fastened by three large padlocks in front, as is the case with the Londonthorpe example; the middle lock is a double one. To obtain access to the box, these three padlocks have to be opened, as well as a lock in the centre of the lid. This lock has twelve latches or bolts—five in front, three at each side, and one at the back. Hence it may be seen that the fastening is much more elaborate than is the case at Londonthorpe, where there are only six latches. The plate covering the lock is of bright steel, engraved with mermaids, birds, and other devices. There is a twisted iron bar fixed inside the chest, on the right-hand side, to hold the lid up. To the left-hand side is a small inner chest fixed, 2 ft. 1 in. long by 8 in. wide, and 10 in. high, which is opened by a lock with a key in the centre; this lock has two latches or bolts.

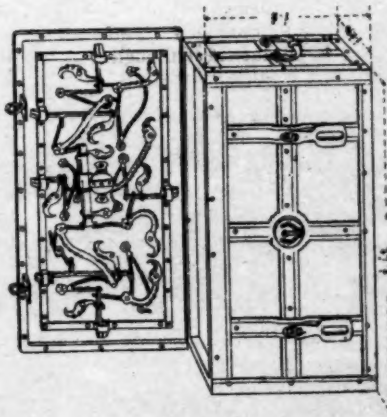
For this description of the Scarborough chest we are indebted to Mr. R. C. Hope, F.S.A. These chests seem to be of 16th century date, varying from time of Henry VIII. to that of Elizabeth. Can any of our readers give information of a dated example?

EDITOR.

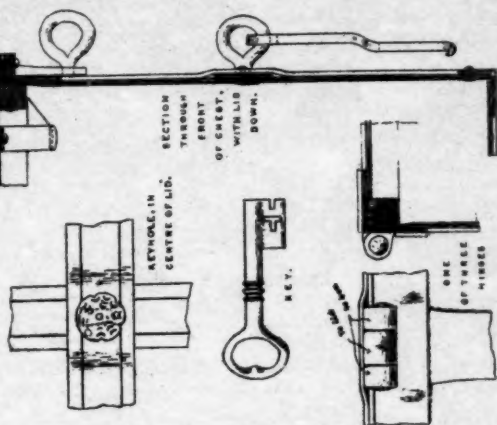
— IRON CHEST —

— LONDONTORPE —

— SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE —



— DETAILS —

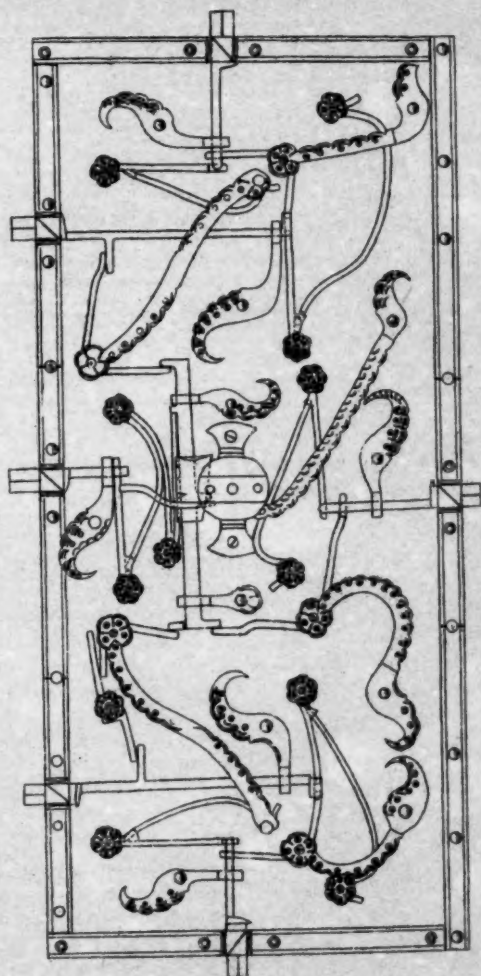


INCHES 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

DRAWN BY L. GIBBS.

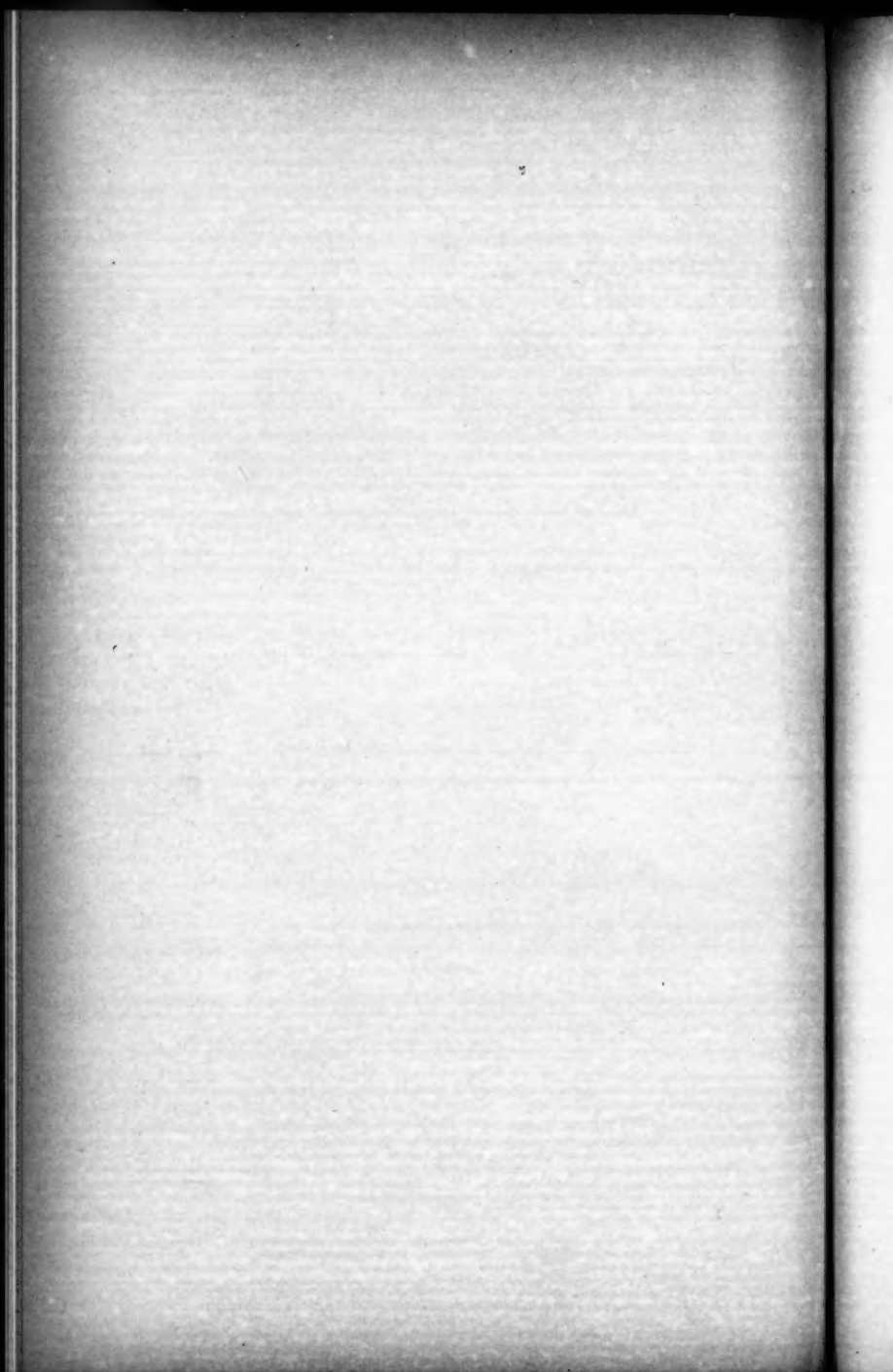
— IRON CHEST — LONDONTHORPE —

— LOCK —



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

DRAWN BY L. GIBBS.



The Ruthwell Cross.

THE RUTHWELL CROSS, which is the most remarkable early Christian monument in Scotland, was removed last November (1887) from the manse garden to the parish church for its better preservation. A semi-circular addition was built to the south-west of the church for its accommodation. A brass placed near the cross succinctly tells the story of the monument :—"The Ruthwell Cross dates from Anglo-Saxon times. Destroyed during the conflicts which followed the Reformation, laid on the earthen floor of this church from 1642 to 1790, erected in the manse garden in 1823, sheltered here and declared a monument under the Ancient Monuments Act, in 1887."

This runic monument dates from the period of the Anglo-Saxon Heptarchy. Although Dumfriesshire formed part of the kingdom of Strathclyde, the country to the east of Nithsdale was frequently under the supremacy of the Northumbrian kings. It is remarkably similar in style and ornament to the Bewcastle Cross, which was erected to the memory of Alchfrid, son of Oswy, king of Northumbria. This prince, who became the patron of St. Wilfrid, died about 655, at the time when Caedmon was composing sacred verse in the Abbey of Whitby. It seems that the date of the Ruthwell Cross may safely be placed between 665 and 700.

The monument, as it stood in the manse garden, attained an elevation of 15 ft. 6 in., but the base being uncovered, it now stands 17 ft. 8 in. from the pavement.

In the panel on the face towards the north, the subject is the Annunciation, the angel Gabriel appearing unto Mary: the inscription is from the Vulgate, St. Luke i. 28—"INGRESSUS ANGELUS" ("The angel having come in")—are the only words now distinguishable.

The next subject is, "Jesus healing the man born blind:" the inscription is from St. John ix. 1: "ET PRAETERIENS [JESUS] VIDIT [HOMINEM CAECUM] A NATIVITATE" "ET SANAVIT EUM AB INFIRMITATE" not in the Vulgate, being added.

Above, there is a representation of "The woman which was a sinner," anointing the feet of Christ: the words are from St. Luke vii. 37, 38—"ATTULIT ALABASTRUM UNGUENTI: ET STANS RETRO SECUS PEDES EJUS LACRIMIS COEPIT RIGARE PEDES EJUS, ET CAPILLIS CAPITIS SUI TERGEBAT." This forms the main panel on the northern face.

Above it is the Salutation between Mary and Elizabeth. The Latin letters are doubtless from the Vulgate of St. Luke, but they are nearly obliterated.



Where the stone curves inwards to the cross-beam, there is an archer pointing his arrow upwards.

The top-stone bears on this face a human figure and a bird: St. John, and his sign—the Eagle. The inscription, which is partly destroyed, is from St. John i. 1: “IN PRINCIPIO ERAT VERBUM.”

In the first panel of the southern face is, “The flight into Egypt,” much destroyed, but with traces of the words “MARIA ET JOSEPH.”

Above is a scene from St. Jerome's life of St. Anthony. Paul the first hermit, and Anthony the first monk, met in the Egyptian desert after their long and lonely wanderings. A raven brought them a loaf of bread in their hunger and weariness. They gave thanks to God, and, having broken the loaf, they sat down to eat it under a palm-tree, and by a cool spring. The inscription runs:—“SCS PAULUS ET ANTONIUS EREMITAE FRAGERUNT PANEM IN DESERTO.”

The principal figure is in the next panel. It is Christ, His right hand raised to bless, His left holding the sacred scroll, and His feet treading on the heads of swine. The inscription is:—“IHS. XPS JUDEX AEQUITATIS. BESTIAE ET DRACONES COGNOVERUNT IN DESERTO SALVATOREM MUNDI,” from the apocryphal Gospel of the Nativity.

Above this is another figure with the feet resting on two globes. It is crowned with a small halo, and bears a lamb in its bosom. The figure probably represents the Father. Only one word can be distinguished on the margin—“ADORAMUS.”

Again, there are two figures as the pillar narrows towards the cross-beam, but the subject has not been discovered. The southern face of the top-stone is of peculiar interest. Resting on a branch, which resembles the work on the sides of the Cross, and which may be designed to represent the last spray of the interlacing vine, is a bird—the Dove of Peace, it has been supposed. But the legend in the margin is not in this case in Roman characters. It is Runic, like the inscriptions on the sides, and Professor George Stephens has deciphered its meaning thus:—“Cædmon me fawed” (“Cædmon made me”).

The vine tracery on the sides of the Cross, intermingled with birds and beasts, which devour the grapes, is the most beautiful part of the workmanship. Some of the creatures on the vine-tree resemble lizards, while others seem to be squirrels or “little foxes.” But the special interest of the monument rests in the legends round the clambering vine; since it has been established that these are a quotation from “The Lay of the Holy Rood,” in the Vercelli Codex.*

The Vercelli Codex, described by Professor Stephens as “an ancient half-ruined skin-book in Old South English, containing homilies and poems,” was found by Professor Blume in the library of a convent at Vercelli, in Piedmont, in the year 1832.

* For the description of the sculpture on the cross we are indebted to a charming little book, “The Ruthwell Cross,” by the Rev. J. McFarlan (Blackwood and Son, 1885).

In translating one of these poems—"The Holy Rood—a Dream"—Mr. John Mitchell Kemble, the noted Anglo-Saxon scholar, was struck by discovering certain lines with which he seemed to be familiar. He had previously made a special study of the runes on the Ruthwell Cross, and was the first in these modern times to discover their Christian meaning. Now, in this "ancient skin-book," he finds what he had found before upon the Ruthwell stone.

In 1856 the Rev. D. H. Haigh made new casts of the Cross, and especially of the top-stone. The results of Haigh's work led him to conjecture that the author of the poem was *Cædmon*.

Haigh carefully compared the Ruthwell and the Bewcastle monuments, and was of opinion that they were not only of the same period, but the work of the same artist. He also concluded that there was no one living at the time of their erection who could have composed the Runic verses on the Ruthwell monument save *Cædmon*.

Professor George Stevens, of Copenhagen, in 1866 published a monograph on this cross. A comparison of the plate of Adam de Cardonnel, engraved for the "*Vetusta Monumenta*" of 1789, with Haigh's cast, and with tracings by the Rev. J. Maughan, of Bewcastle, led Stephens to the conclusion that *Cædmon* is the author of the Runic verses on the Cross; "*Cædmon me fawed*" being, as he thought, the true rendering of the runes on the top-stone.

Professor Stephens thus translates the runes of the Ruthwell Cross. As in a dream, the poet hears the Cross—"the Saviour's Tree"—relate the story of Christ's Passion:—

West side— "Girded Him then
God Almighty,
When He would
Step on the gallows
Fore all mankind,
Mindfast, fearless.
Bow me durst I not ;
(Rood was I reared now,)
Rich King heaving,
The Lord of Light-realms ;
Lean me I durst not.
Us both they basely mocked and handled,
Was I there with blood bedabbled,
Gushing grievous from (His dear side
When His ghost He had up-rendered.)

East side— Christ was on Rood-Tree.
But fast, from afar,
His friends hurried,
Athel to the sufferer.
Everything I saw.
Sorely was I
With sorrows harrowed,
(Yet humbly) I inclined
(To the hands of His servants,)
(Striving with might to aid them.)
With streals (shafts) was I all wounded.
Down laid they Him Limb-weary.
O'er His life-less head then stood they,
Heavily gazing at Heaven's (Chieftain)."

The words in brackets are supplied from the Vercelli Codex.

It is only right to add that the inscription about Cædmon is now wholly illegible, and that certain competent authorities incline to the opinion that anxiety to identify the authorship of the poem accelerated the reading of the obscure words, "Cædmon me fawed."

Moreover, Professor Henry Morley points out that "Cædmon made me," if that is the true rendering, points to a stone-cutter rather than a poet, and says that we must be content to acknowledge that we do not know who wrote "The Vision of the Cross."

Army and Navy List of the Time of James 3.

BY ROACH LE SCHONIX.

THE valuable manuscript compiled about the first year of James I., which was described in detail in the last volume of the *Reliquary*, and from which considerable extracts have been already given,* contains a full list of "his Majesties' Shippes" and of "the General Mustars' of the whole Realme." These lists are now reproduced verbatim.

It is interesting to note that by far the greater portion of the ships enumerated took part in the great Armada contest of the preceding reign.

The remainder of this manuscript, giving lists of "Officers of the State and of the Royal Household;" "Townes of Warr, Castles, Bulwarkes;" and "Keepers, Officers, and Ministers of Castles, Howses, Parkes, Forests, and Chases," will be given on a future occasion—

His Majestie's Shippes.				
The names of ships.	the number of men.	The furniture.	The Burthen.	
The Triumphe	Mariners	450	Caliv's †	250
	guners	50	Bowes	50
	Souldiors	250	Arrowshefs	100
			Pykes	200
			Billes	200
			Corsetlets	150
			Murians ‡	200
The Elizabeth	Mariners	350	Calivers	200
	guñers	50	Bowes	50
	Souldiors	200	Arrowshefs	100
			Pikes	280
			Billes	170
			Corsetlets	100
			Murians	200
			1000 Tun'	
			Tun' 900	

* *Reliquary*, Vol. I. (New Series), pp. 152-158; Vol. II., pp. 22-25.

† The caliver was a large pistol or kind of short arquebus, holding a middle place between the true pistol and the genuine arquebus.

‡ The murian or morion was a light open helm or close-fitting metal skull-cap, with a rim extended so as to cover the sides of the face and back of the neck.

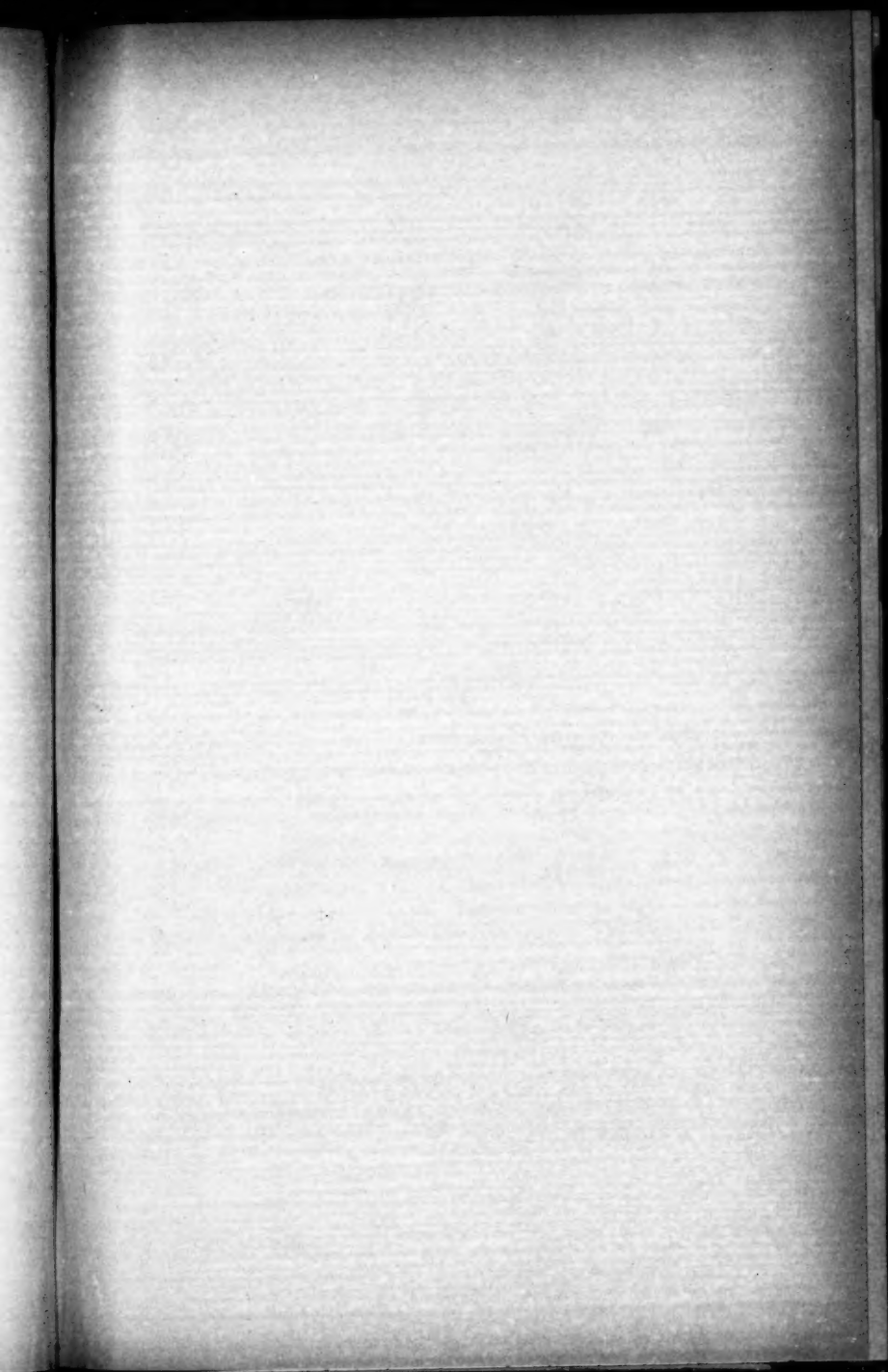
The names of ships.	the number of men.		The furniture.		The Burthen.
The white beare	ut ante		ut ante		ut ante
The marie rose	Mariners	200	Calivers	200	820 Tun'
	guñers	40	Bowes	40	
	Souldiors	160	Arrowshefs	80	
			Pykes	100	
			Bylles	180	
			Corslettes	80	
The Victorie	Mariners	200	Murians	160	800 Tunn'
	guñers	40	Calivers	200	
	Souldiors	100	Bowes	40	
			Arrowshefs	60	
			Pikes	100	
			Billes	180	
The Hoope	ut ante		Corsletts	80	320 Tun'
	ut ante		Murians	160	
	ut ante		ut ante		
	ut ante		ut ante		
	ut ante		ut ante		
	ut ante		ut ante		
The Bonaventure	Mariners	120	Calivers	75	500 Tunn'
The Phillip & Marye	guñers	20	Bowes	25	
The Lyon	Souldiors	80	Arrowshefs	50	
The swallows			Pykes	60	
			Billes	60	
			Corsletts	30	
The Dreadnought	Mariners	240	Murians	70	500 Tunn'
	guñers	40	Calivers	80	
	Souldiors	200	Bowes	20	
			Arrowshefs	50	
			Pykes	50	
			Billes	60	
The swiftfaire	ut ante		Corsletts	40	500 Tunn'
	Mariners	120	Murians	80	
	guñers	20	ut ante		
	Souldiors	80	Calivers	35	
			Bowes	25	
			Arrowshefs	30	
The Antelop	ut ante		Pykes	30	320 Tun'
	Mariners	70	Bylles	30	
	guñers	10	Corsletts	15	
	Souldiors	80	Murians	70	
			ut ante		
			ut ante		
The Jennet	Mariners	70	Calivers	75	160 Tun'
	gunners	10	Bowes	25	
	Souldiors	80	Arrowshefs	50	
			Pykes	60	
			Billes	60	
			Corsletts	30	
The foresight	ut ante		Murians	70	160 Tun'
	ut ante		ut ante		
	Mariners	60	Calivers	24	
	gunners	10	Bowes	10	
	Souldiors	50	Arrowshefs	20	
			Pykes	10	
The Figar	ut ante		Billes	20	ut ante
	Mariners	60	Corsletts	25	
	gunners	10	Murians	25	
	Souldiors	50	ut ante		
			ut ante		
			ut ante		
The Falcon	ut ante		ut ante		ut ante
	ut ante		ut ante		
The Acates	ut ante		ut ante		ut ante
	ut ante		ut ante		
The Handmaid	ut ante		ut ante		ut ante
	ut ante		ut ante		

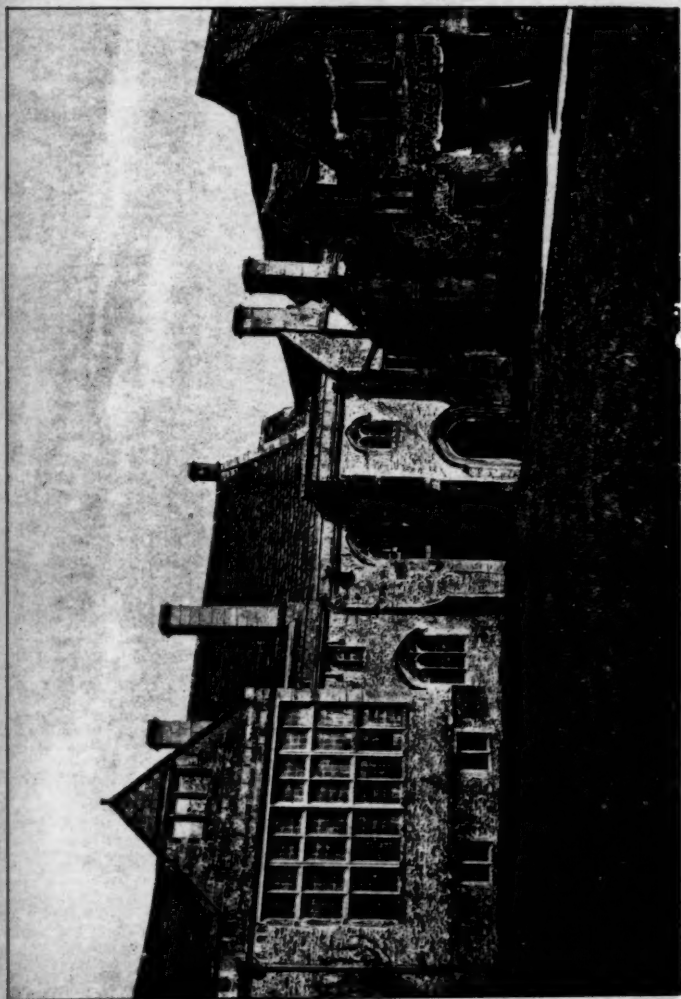
The names of ships.	the number of men.		The furniture.	The Burthen.
The Arkraile	ut ante		ut ante	ut ante
The Bonavogle	ut ante		ut ante	ut ante
The Bark of Bullen	Mariners	30	Calivers	15
	gunners	10	Bowes	15
	Souldiors	40	Arrowshefs	25
			Pykes	15
			Bylles	20
			Corsetlets	10
			Murians	20
The George	ut ante		ut ante	ut ante

The generall mustars taken throughout the whole realme of England and Wales—

Countieys & Cities.	ablemen.	armedmen.	pyoners.	Demi-lances.*	high horses.*
In Cambridgeshire	5000	2500	300	30	200
In Cambridgetowne	320	200	100	2	25
In Cornwall	8500	3500	686	35	260
In y ^e Ile of Elie	600	200	36	0	20
In Darbieshire	5600	2300	360	15	80
In Devonshire	6500	2500	800	26	150
In Exeter towne	750	500	146	0	12
In Sussex	6200	2500	150	16	280
In Lincolnshire	8000	4000	355	45	200
In Lincolne	226	120	48	0	10
In Som'setshire	6000	2000	46	30	120
In Bristowe	5000	2500	400	12	28
In Hartfordshire	4500	2000	260	28	180
In St. Albones	200	100	40	0	4
In Worcestershire	5600	2500	230	20	85
In Norfolk	6800	3500	350	25	140
In Lyme Regis	260	85	30	0	3
In Norwich	4000	2500	300	3	22
In Essex	5280	3500	365	28	200
In Colchester	400	180	30	0	10
In Shropshire	6500	3000	286	25	300
In Ludlow	2400	1000	100	10	30
In Shrowsbury	800	300	45	2	4
In Midlesex	4000	3000	560	40	60
In London	40000	25000	3000	60	180
In Wiltshire	5500	2500	140	20	200
In Saru'	500	150	6	0	3
In Leicestershire	3000	2000	200	10	100
In Oxfordshire	5600	1800	250	6	80
In Oxford	500	260	100	0	10
In Dorsett	6000	2500	100	10	65
In Poole	300	120	40	0	3
In Surrey	6200	2500	280	16	120
In Barkshire	6000	2800	280	16	120
In Buckinghamshire	5300	2300	300	18	180
In Bedfordshire	5600	2200	130	10	160
In Staffordshire	6300	2600	25	2	200
In Stafford	285	150	80	0	5
In Lancashire	8000	2800	300	25	150
In Hamshire	6000	2500	350	22	180
In South'ton	780	500	60	0	8
In Winchester	200	120	23	0	3

* The demi-lance was a light horseman or lancer; the high horsemen were the heavier cavalry; the equipment of the former was much more costly.





SOUTH WRAXHALL MANOR HOUSE
View of S.W. angle of Courtyard showing Hall & Withdrawing Rooms.

Countieys & Cities.	ablemen.	armedmen.	pyoners.	Demi-lances.	high horses.
In Nottinghamshire ...	4000	1500	100	18	100
In Yorkshire ...	16000	12000	700	120	340
In Yorke Citie ...	6000	2000	500	6	20
In Warwickshire ...	5000	2500	170	15	15
In Kent ...	7500	3000	250	2	200
In Cheshire ...	5000	2300	180	18	150
In Chester ...	350	200	36	0	4
In Hereffordshire ...	5500	2000	150	8	190
In Herefford ...	340	240	40	0	4
In Northamptonshire ..	4600	1800	150	8	120
In Huntingtongshire ...	3500	1350	120	2	120
In Rutlandshire ...	1800	800	65	3	25
In Westmrland ...	2000	1200	100	4	80
In Cumberland ...	2100	1300	86	5	100
In Northumberland ...	2300	1800	100	8	125
In Countie Durha' ...	1500	850	65	6	100
In Suffolk ...	7500	3800	360	20	160
In Gloucestershire ...	4560	2800	250	18	150
In Monmothshire ...	2000	1000	65	3	30
In Glamorganshire ...	1800	1000	54	5	45
In Pembrookshire ...	1500	850	62	2	35
In Radno' ...	1800	600	85	2	20
In Brecknokshire ...	1200	520	40	3	30
In Cardiganshire ...	2000	500	55	4	28
In Carmarthen ...	1000	450	34	2	22
In Moungomeryshire ...	1300	500	40	4	30
In Merioneth ...	1000	250	32	3	25
In Anglice ...	600	180	30	3	10
In Denbighshire ...	1400	400	50	2	35
In Flintshire ...	800	230	38	2	10
The Some of all ...	296131	143105	16345	935	6777

Besides what the Noblmen, Earles, Barrones Lo : Archbishops, Bishops and Prelates of England can make w^{ch} is supposed to be above 20000 armed men and 4000 horses.

Notes on South Wraxall Manor House, Wiltshire.

BY C. E. PONTING.

THE family of Long (or Longe) of Wraxall and Whaddon, in the County of Wilts., have owned the Manor of Wraxall from a time anterior to the date of the present house, and the earliest part of this structure was probably built by Robert Long, who was member of Parliament for the County in 1433, and who died in 1447. The same family continued to occupy the house until 1810. From 1820 to 1826 it was used as a boarding school by a Dr. Knight, and amongst his pupils there was Lord Lawrence, subsequently Governor-General of India. During these six years much injury was done to the old features. The house is now tenanted only by a caretaker.

The Manor House (Plate XV.) illustrates in a remarkable man-

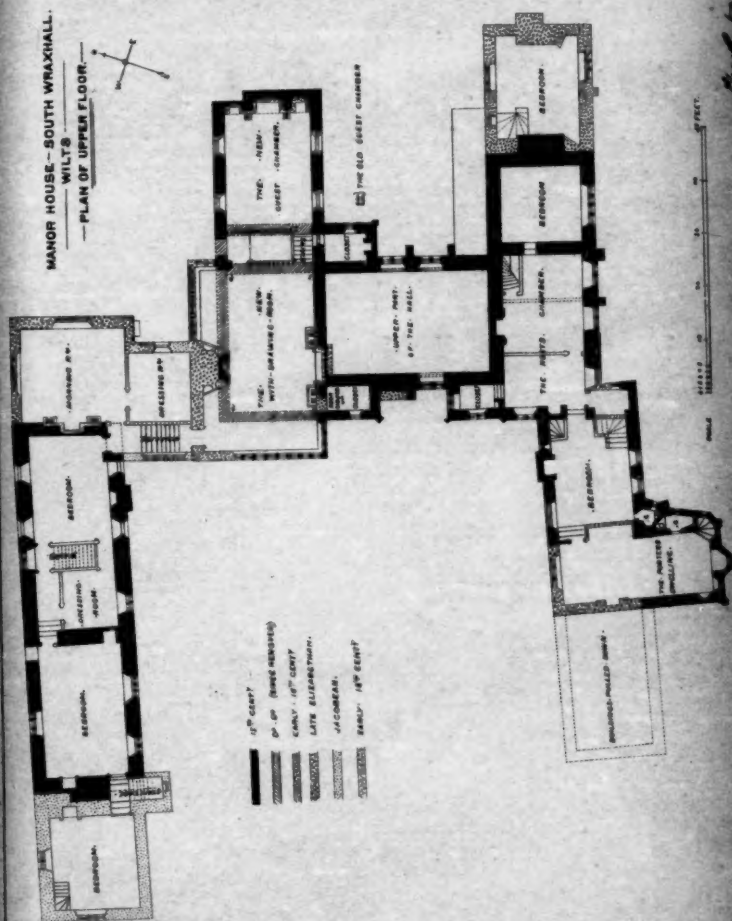
ner the development of the dwelling-house from the middle ages onwards. Measured drawings of this house were made by Thomas Larkins Walker in 1838 for Pugin's "Examples," but the dates he assigns to several parts of it are misleading as judged by the light of subsequent investigations, in accordance with which the two plans (Plates XVI. and XVII.) now given have been corrected. The original house appears, from the character of the work, to have been erected during the second quarter of the 15th century. The parts of this which now exist are—the Hall, with its porch and two bays; the Parlour at the south end of it, with the kitchen adjoining and the Host's Chamber over; and the Buttery north of the Hall, with the Guests' Chamber over, the two latter being approached through the bays. Of the Guests' Chamber only the roof, with its moulded principals and chamfered wind-braces, remains to show the date, subsequent remodelling having obliterated every other worked feature, and this is concealed by the Elizabethan ceiling. The Hall, however, remains nearly intact. It has a good roof of the early hammer-beam type, with rich mouldings in principals and cornice. The shields on the corbels appear to have been added nearly a century later.

Next in date (and very little later) is the, then detached, block of offices at the north-east angle of the courtyard; this has its original roof above the modern ceilings, with moulded principals, and wind-braces with pierced cusping.

The entrance gateway, with the porter's dwelling over, and the buildings connecting it with the parlour were apparently erected at the beginning of the 16th century, after the acquisition of the manor of Draycot Cerne, Wilts., by Sir Thomas Long, as the badge of the possessor of this manor—the fetterlock—is cut on the label termination, and the character of the oriel and archway is quite consistent with this supposition. The original part of the gateway only extended to about 14 feet from the front (or south) face, and the quoin is visible on the west side, as well as a blocked-up doorway forming a foot entrance from the outside. The porter's room is approached from the gateway by a staircase in the east wall. The two privy closets for this room and the adjoining bedroom are original work, and are ingeniously arranged; the original fireplace is across the angle by the oriel, and the second one was doubtless for the use of the room added over the north part of the gateway before the two rooms were thrown into one.

At about this time (certainly not later) the part called by Walker the "Dining Room," with "New Guests' Chamber" over, east of the original guests' chamber, was added, but to outward appearance there is little to indicate its thus early date, and Walker sets it down as *temp.* James I., though it is difficult to see what could have led to this conclusion, as all the existing windows are of early 18th century type. During a recent examination of the building, however, the writer discovered that, above the flat ceiling, the Tudor roof, with collar-trusses and wind-braces, still exists. By the end of the 15th century the courtyard had apparently been enclosed, by walls,

MANOR HOUSE--SOUTH WRAXHALL.
--- WILTS ---
--- PLAN OF UPPER FLOOR.---



and the part on the west side, with the doorway leading to the plaisance, was probably erected then.

During the latter part of the reign of Elizabeth and the early part of that of James I., very extensive alterations were made in the house, doubtless to adapt it to the changed habits of the people. The Hall, which previously had no fireplace, now received this desirable adjunct, a chimney stack being built into and projecting from the west wall on the outside, between the middle buttress and the bay, as shown on the plan, the buttress remaining as a quoin and its weathering turned sideways; the return of the plinth splay remains undisturbed. The chimney piece, which bears date A.D. 1598, possesses interesting bits of detail, and was erected during the ownership of the property by Walter Long, High Sheriff of Wilts., in 1601. An oak screen of great beauty was also erected to cut off a passage at the south end of the Hall; the arabesque ornamentation of this feature is very elaborate, and the frieze is enriched with an interesting shell device. The screen has two openings in it without doors, but the ceiling and gallery over have disappeared.

The greatest change, however, was made by the remarkable re-modelling of the part north of the Hall. The ancient Guests' Chamber was transformed into a "Withdrawing Room," and its dimensions increased from 26ft. to 35ft. 2in. in length, and from 13ft. 7in. to 23ft. 7in. in width *without disturbing the original roof*. In order to effect this, a striking and novel expedient was resorted to: a piece of the original north wall, for about six feet in length, was left in such a position as to support one of the principals (the roof being in three bays), and at the same time come in the centre of the extended length of the room. The space behind this pier, and between it and the new north wall, was then filled in and splayed at the sides to form a semi-hexagon on plan, and the block thus projecting made an ornamental feature by forming five niched seats in it, with scalloped heads. Beams were thrown across east and west of this to carry the north roof plate—in the former case the second principal also. The part eastward of this pier thus forms a large bay with flat ceiling. The widened room was then lengthened westward, almost the entire available space in the new walls being occupied by mullioned windows of three lights in height. The braces of the roof were cut away to admit of the coved ceiling which was then erected under it and carried through from end to end, but the rest of the roof remains intact. This ceiling is richly ornamented with ribs in arabesque form and pendants, and the tympanum over the west window has some specially good detail of this kind. The walls of three sides of the room are panelled in oak, and similar panelling forms the partition at the east end by the staircase. The great feature of the room, however, is the beautiful chimney piece, which was erected in the centre of the room opposite to the niched pier, and blocks up the doorway which formerly led into the small chamber over the north-west bay of the Hall. This elaborate work is unexpectedly well preserved. It is 15 feet wide, constructed of stone; the design is in two stages. The cornice of

the lower, with carved frieze, is supported by a pair of male and female figures on each jamb of the fireplace. The upper order consists of a stylobate, with raised medallion and strap ornamentation, on which, over the jambs, stand two pairs of columns having their surface covered with arabesque enrichment, with Corinthian capitals. These flank two niches containing figures inscribed "Prudentia" and "Justitia" respectively. Over the centre of the fireplace is a figure of Pan, and on each side, contained in flat circular-headed panels, are figures of "Arithmetica" and "Geometria," the following inscriptions being cut on their respective pedestals:—

" Par nuper numeris vestigo site subactis,
Me pete, concinne, si numerare cupis."

and

" Mensuras rerum spatiis dimetiora equis
Quid Cælo distet Terra, locusque loco."

Other parts of the house were also rearranged and enriched at this period. The screen across the Hall has already been referred to: communication was then formed between the doorway at the east end of the passage formed by it, and the kitchen and garden eastward, by a covered way, the roof being supported by a colonnade of five bays in wood, and a new kitchen was added. The Host's Chamber was sub-divided, and one of the apartments fitted with oak panelling very elaborately treated, and with a richly carved frieze. In the spandrels of a coeval stone chimney piece here are the initials S.H.L. and H.E., the latter two connected by a lovers' knot. This probably marks the union between Sir Henry Long and Eleanor, daughter of Richard Wrotesley (Co. Stafford) in 16—. The two rooms east of the Hall—the Dining Room and New Guests' Room—have stone chimney pieces of about the same date, and the north part of the gateway may be attributed to this period. A room on the upper floor was also erected at the east end of the detached offices at the north-east corner, the walls being supported on a stone colonnade of four bays on the east and two bays on the north, forming a kind of conservatory, or garden room, beneath; shortly after this, the gap between this and the Withdrawing Room was filled up—the point of junction is distinguishable by a straight joint in the masonry—and other offices erected to the west of the hitherto detached block.

About a century later, another great stride was made in adapting the fittings and surroundings of the house to modern ideas. In the parts about the Withdrawing Room new windows and doors were inserted in the Dining Room and new Guests' Room, and the walls panelled in deal; a new staircase and garden entrance were also made. The bedrooms over the north block of offices were similarly refitted and flat ceilings constructed, hiding the 15th century roof to which reference has been made. Two modern windows inserted here have lately given way to a reproduction of the original ones, the positions of which are shown in an engraving by Britton. Additional gardens on the north were walled in, and a picturesque

summer-house erected at the south-east angle. The entrance gates and piers on the north, as well as those in front of the main gateway, were erected, the latter probably forming the entrance to a drive across the field in the direction of Bradford-on-Avon, the course of which can be traced by the disposition of the trees.

Carrying on the history of this interesting house down to the present day and to its present worthy owner, the writer feels that he cannot do better than conclude this imperfect sketch by quoting the late Canon Rich Jones, to whom Wiltshire archæologists owe so much. He says :—

“Of course much of the beauty of the Manor House at Wraxall which, when Aubrey visited it about 200 years ago, had all its windows filled with stained glass, containing shields and emblems of many a noble and gentle family connected with it by marriage, or, it may be, by political ties, has perished. But even in its comparative desolation, it remains a proud monument of a family who, from the time of their first settlement in Wiltshire, seem to have occupied high and important positions in the county, and who can still point in the 19th, as they were able to do in the 15th century downwards, to the head of their clan—now Walter Hume Long of Wraxall and Rood Ashton—as the representative of the county in Imperial Parliament,” and (it can since be added) a member of Her Majesty’s Government.

Notes on the Great Fire of London, 1666.

BY JOHN E. PRICE, F.S.A.

IN the course of some researches at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, I came across among the manuscripts, some unpublished letters descriptive of the “Great Fire.” It is possible that they may have been printed, but I am not aware of it, and if so, they would be in some publication not generally accessible; the copies are taken from the original in the “Gough” Collection.* In his “British Topography,” Mr. Gough thus refers to their possession, “I have three MS. letters, dated Middle Temple, September 24 and 29, and October 3, giving many new particulars relative to the Fire and its Consequences.” There is, unfortunately, no evidence to show by whom they were written, or to whom they were addressed; but, inasmuch as they contain the impressions made upon the mind of an eye witness of one of the greatest calamities which ever befell a city, the incidents he relates will be read with interest. The letters are printed verbatim, and I have endeavoured, as far as possible, to preserve their quaint orthography intact.

“Dear Sir,

Did I not imagine the common report concerning y^e late Fire in London had prepared you to receiv an account of that terrible and

* Gough MSS. Lond. 14.

calamitous accident, I should not presume to give it you without introducing it by a suitable preface, that you might not be surprised in reading the relation of one of y^e most hevvy and most dismal stroakes that ever fell on England or possibly any other nation, unless by an Invasion. It was on Sunday the 2 of September about *one o'clock in the morning* that it began in a heap of bavins* in a Bakers House in *Pudding Lane* on the East side of New Fish Street Hill within ten houses of Thames Street. It had gotten some strength ere discove'd, yet reasonably enough to allow a merchant who dwelt next door to remove all his goods. But as soon as it felt y^e violent impressions of a strong E. N. E wind (which had continued so a *week* beefore and as long after, with some little intermission and some alteration of two or three points) leaving a small force to finish y^e conquest of y^e house where it received its birth, immediately directed its greatest strength against y^e adjacent ones. It quickly grew powerful enough to despise y^e use of buckets and was too advantageously seated among narrow streets to be assaulted by engines, t'was therefore proposed to y^e *Lord Mayor* (who came before *three oclock*) that it would be necessary to pull down some houses to prevent its spreading but he with a Fish answered that it would soon be out, neglected the prudent advice and was not long undeceived of that foolish confidence, for before 8 o'clock twas gotten to y^e Bridge, and there dividing left enough to burn down all that had been ere y^e last great Fire 63 and with y^e main body pressed forward into Thames Street. About 7 a clock that morning a little stable in Horsshoe Alley near Winchester Stairs in Southwark was a fire (supposed by a spark) but was stopd within two hours by y^e pulling down a third house after two had been burnt. I heard nothing of all this but till 9. a. clock and then running down into y^e Temple Garden saw y^e smoak of both, and y^e flames of y^e former. I was not satisfy'd at this distance, but going with some others into y^e street found it full of people and those (full) of fears for twas already imagin'd the design of y^e *French and Dutch*, in revenge of what our forces had done lately at *Brandaris* upon y^e island *Schelling* and the riding of a hot headed fellow through y^e street (with more speed and fear than wit) crying "Arm" "Arm" had frighted most of the people out of y^e churches. About 10 a clock we came into Gracechurch Street &, there from y^e top of an high house saw twas come as far westward as *Coldharbor*, & as far northward as *Crooked-lane*. Returning homeward we found a party of 40 horse of the Lifeguard in Cornhill, & met some companies of y^e Kings Regiments, & of y^e Train bands and Auxiliaries marching into y^e City. After dinner we took boat & rowing towards y^e Bridg, found it come to Stilyard. Landing at Paulswharfe, & walking towards y^e Fire, were stop'd in Canningstreet by y^e abundance of goods and carts with which 'twas filld. Here we met my Lord Mayor on horseback with a few attendants, looking like one frighted out of his witts. The tall spired Steeple of *St. Laurence Pountney* was then afire, which appearing at y^e top (where it had melted y^e lead with

* i.e., faggots.

which twas coverd) discoverd itself with so much terror, as if taking a view from that lofty place of what it intended suddenly to devour. Getting round into Little Eastcheap, we came so near as to look into *Fishstreet*, & perceiv'd it was then (being 4 a clock) within five houses of y^e upper end of that Street. Thence we went into Pudding Lane, and observ'd not above 3 houses burnt in that Lane on y^e North side of y^e house where it began. It was that evening a second time on y^e water; & twas then it appeared with all y^e horror & dreadfulness imaginable; the flames afforded light enough to discover themselves, y^e black smook, & the buildings they so imminently thretned: The Moon offer'd her light too, but was overcome by this greater; which not being able (by day) to contend with that of y^e Sun, did (as it were in spite) by smook lessen it. I came back at 8 a clock leaving it then at y^e *Three Cranes*, which is distant from the Bridge almost a fourth part of y^e space between y^e Temple & y^e Bridge. That night more of y^e Lifeguard and Soldiers watch'd in y^e City. I kept my bed but few hours & slept less.

MONDAY.—Next morning at *ten a clock* I went with three or four more over to Southwark, where getting into an house fronting y^e river, I observ'd its progress had not been great y^e preceding night: for it had not consumed above eight houses on y^e water side, and had now *four houses between it and Queenhithe*; where they were pulling down y^e Market place and some houses, as a probable place to stop its course. While we staid here y^e *King* came down in his Barge (as he had done y^e foregoing afternoon) and after half an hours observation return'd again to Whitehall. After two hours expectation we saw all those endeavors slighted by a leap which y^e Fire made over twenty houses upon the turret of an house in *Thamestreet*: coming back and taking a melancholy dinner about 3 a clock we got into Thamestreet and so round by y^e skirts of y^e Fire (tho' with much difficulty) through y^e streets barricadoed with goods, carts, and coaches. By that time we had reached *Cornhill* y^e Fire had consum'd *Lumbardstreet*, and was within forty yards of this. The *D. of Monmouth* with several of y^e Guard sat there on horsback. The *D. of York* was in another part of y^e City. We came home at 5 a clock; & seing little of probability in a desired stop, three of us (of this house) pack'd up our books & put them aboard a barge.

In all this narrative you meet with little of y^e motion of y^e Fire eastward; nor was it indeed so considerable, for, y^e violence of y^e wind drove it from those parts, yet not so much but that about *six a clock* this evening 'twas got to Billingsgate. Just before midnight we met y^e *Lords Manchester, Hollins* & others in Fleetstreet, who taking a view of those parts, an hour after orderd y^e pulling down some houses in Whitefryers; tho' some earnestly urg'd what had been propos'd in the morning viz. that y^e houses on each side y^e river Fleet should be pull'd down from y^e Thames to Holborn bridge.

TUESDAY.—At *one a clock* in y^e morning y^e wind at E. & by S. we went up y^e river, and leaving our trunks &c at a little inknown house in Battersey, we were at London again by *seven*; & understood y^e Fire had newly master'd *Baynards Castle*, about which it had been

employed at least ten hours. *Monday evening* y^e Fire was at y^e *Stocks*, & as soon as day at *Mercers Chapel*. This day it came to *Pauls* about noon, & thrusting forwards with much eagerness towards *Ludgate*, within two hours more drove those from their work who had been employ'd all that day in levelling y^e houses on y^e river *Fleet*. It rush'd like a torrent down *Ludgate Hill*, and by five a clock was advanc'd as high as *Fleet conduit*. Despairing then of ever seeing this place more but in ashes, we went to *Hornsey* four miles off, & in our way a *Highgate*, we might discern with what rage & greediness it marched up *Fleetstreet*. That nights refreshment in a bed drove from me an aguish distemper that had seised on me y^e day before.

WEDNESDAY.—Next morning we came hither at ten a clock, & were inform'd that it was stop'd at y^e *Temple*, *Fetterlane*, & *Holborn Bridge*, between y^e hours of two and six in y^e morning but twas not master'd in *Shoolane* till twelve a clock. That day food was scarce, but we made a shift. About 4 in y^e afternoon it brake out again in y^e *Temple*, ('tis thought) by a lurking spark that had been conceal'd ever since morning, which happening among Paper buildings quickly increas'd, & had baffled two engines, if y^e blowing up some Lodgings had not prevented its diffusion, which was before midnight. The *D. of York* was here 3 or 4 hours showing much diligence, as he had done in several parts of y^e City that day, where he had seen, as he said, above 100 houses blown up. Great Guards of Horse and Foot were drawn hither, and to other places where the Fire was extinguished. That night and the following we lodg'd in a stable in *Lincolns Innfields* upon beds or packs in our cloaths. All this day it had burnt about *Cripplegate*, and was not extinguish'd till night, but at y^e *Tower* six hours sooner.

THURSDAY.—Thursday pass'd in perfecting y^e Victory over y^e Fire.

FRIDAY.—So did Friday. That night we got into a bed in an house

SATURDAY we fetched home our movables & have since remained here without disturbance.

I am sensible of transgressing y^e ordinary bounds of a letter, & shall therefore only add those of y^e Fire; which are the *Temple Church*, more than halfway up in *Fetterlane*, almost at y^e northend of *Shoolane* (y^e rest consumed) *Holbornbridg*, *Pycorner*, *Aldersgate*, *Cripplegate*, neer y^e lower end of *Colemanstreet*, at y^e ends of *Bishopsgate* and *Leadenhallstreet*, both which are standing, beyond *Fanchurch*, at y^e lower end of *Marklane*, & at y^e *Tower Dock*. This, Sir, is y^e bare narrative; but there remain observables enough to deserv another Paper, which causes me to write no more on this but that

I am,

Your most ready servant

* * * *

M. Temple,
Sept. 24th 1666."

"Dear Sir,

My last letter ended in telling you at what places the Fire was quenched, this shall begin in acquainting you with the means used for effecting it. Tis true many were imploy'd especially in pulling down houses, which they alwaies begun too near y^e Fire, by which they were forc'd from their work ere finished. Twas indeed almost impossible, after it had made such a large circle, to make a larger round it by any other means than that of *blowing up houses*, which had been propos'd the first day by some experienced persons, then esteemed a desperate cure, but afterwards practis'd with very good success. For by putting a barrel of Powder or thereabouts under each house 'twas first lift up a yard or two, & then fell down flat without any danger to the bystanders. At some places the extraordinary offers made by the owners of houses incrag'd the workmen, and thereby sav'd them, as at Pycorner, where one gave them 50^{li}. & at y^e new building in Lothbury where they had 100^{li}. At others 'twas effected by ordinary means & less strength than had been formerly imploy'd. In Fleetstreet over against St. Dunstan's Church, its greediness was the cause of its own destruction, by skipping over ten houses, & fastning on a wooden one, which having burnt with its neighbor, & being hindred from getting farther by a brick house, & the small help then present, had made a wide gap by that time the main body of the Fire was advanced. Certainly had it been let alone it would not have proceeded faster, & some considering with what weak means & at what unlikely places (that is some of them) 'twas check'd, all within the spaces of four hours, (except at two or three places) they cant but acknowledg the same Providence saying Hitherto shalt thou come & no farther, that at first gave it a commission, having prepared the matter by a dry easterly wind the week before, (which continued all the time & longer but abated of its violence the Tuesday night) & appointing it a beginning among close built, wooden, pitched houses, fill'd with y^e most combustible commodities.

There was commonly reckon'd within the Bills of Mortality 130 Parish Churches, which are now reduced to 43 (& another much hurt). So that within the walls are left 13 Parish Churches (or but 12 if we account that none so much maim'd) & the Dutch Church: the rest which were 84 are burnt, besides St. Paul's, the French Church, & Mercers Chapel (& other Chappels). Without the Walls are consumed three viz. Sepulchres, St. Brides, & Bridewel Chapel. In all 90; wherof some are so terribly torn & shatter'd that nothing is left but pieces of walls, others have some Pillars standing. The smaller Bells are melted. All the Western part of Pauls is scal'd, having lost pieces of stones broken off weighing 20, 40, 100 pounds. The Quire is faln down into St. Faiths: most of the Roof is down too, & some of the Pillars. The Halls are burnt, except Ironmongers, Leathersellers & Glovers Hall & some few others. The whole of what lyes wast is above 400 acres of ground. About a sixth part of what stood within the walls remains, which is more than is burnt without.

You expect something concerning y^e value of the *losses*. Some reckon roundly, & say London is ruin'd, England is ruin'd. That's too confident, yet I dare not determine how far they are out. The truth on't is the exact computation is impossible. In general 'tis concluded more commodities & household good are preserv'd than perish'd, especially those of least weight & most worth, whilst the surprise & difficulty of carriage deterr'd men from rescuing others. Some goods were sav'd in arched cellars, though others trusted in such places were consum'd by the fall of the arches, or not careful stopping the passages. None have suffred proportionally so deep as the *Booksellers*, principally those in Pauls Churchyard, who putting their books into St. Faiths & other vaults under Pauls, had them all destroy'd, except in 3 or 4 vaults there, which were warehouses; besides all that were in warehouses at Stationers at Stationers Hall. Some have lost 2, 3, 4, 5, 6000^l a man. In all they compute more 100000^l in that commodity. Of persons very few lost their lives; the bills of Mortality mention but six burnt, wherof two or three sunk into vaults since the Fire as they were searching the ruins of their houses. 'Tis presum'd the hasty removal to which sick persons & women lying in were forc'd, occasion'd the death of some.

Hitherto your Fancy may keep pace with my Discourse: but should I undertake a description of the *General Confusion* and Astonishment, I can't promise my self any probability of perfecting it. You may more easily imagine every one running up & down, some removing their goods ready to be devoured, others more wise or fearful remov'd two days before they were in danger. Some remov'd 4 or 5 times, others carried them out into the country. Some went to friends, or hired houses, others into the fields, where they lay by them many nights. Divers at Westminster had remov'd, & some of the best movables at Whitehall were carried away. Carts came in from the country, coaches were employ'd. Carremen got excessively, receiving usually for small turns between the rates of 10^s & 5^l: nay some were offer'd 40, 50^l for a turn. One while the gates were shut, that, no hopes of saving any thing being left, they might have more desperately endeavour'd the quenching the Fire, but that was presently found in vain, & occasion'd the loss of much goods. Some press'd carts, others for want of them lost all, & sometimes their numerousness would hinder one the other. All was in an hurry. And that which heightned it was a confidence among the most that twas a design of our enemies. We had an hundred stories of people taken with *Fire balls*, & others endeavoring with matches to fire other places: so that none knew where to be secure. The belief of this had kindled such a rage in y^e multitude, that they kill'd one poor woman who had something in her apron they imagin'd Fireballs, & sadly wounded and maimed divers others, especially *French and Dutch*, whose very birth was enough to condemn them. An honest Dutch baker at Westminster had a good part of his house pull'd down upon a surmise that he had endeavor'd to set it afire. And twas nothing but the effects of a good government in this City preserv'd all of those nations from a massacre. How far they or others had an

hand in this you'll see my thoughts anon. The *Prisoners* for debt in the Fleet, Ludgate, & Counter were permitted to go out, but those in the goal at Newgate were sent with a guard to that in Southwark, but not strong enough to hinder the most notorious from escaping by y^e way.

Everyone condemn'd the Lord Mayor as a Person delighting more in drinking & dancing than is necessary for such a Magistrate. His authority & that of y^e Aldermen was little regarded. The Duke of York bestir'd himself much especially Tuesday & Wednesday, & to good effect. The King was in y^e City two or three times, expressing much care to preserv y^e remaining parts, exposing himself among all persons, & not refusing to hear the advice of y^e meanest.

One observation more and I have done. Little pieces of scorch'd silk & paper were taken up in very many places neer Windsor, Henley, Beaconsfield, &c. Indeed the smoak (driven by the wind) made an Arch in the Heavens (as sign of Wrath, as y^e Rainbow was once of Peace) from this place to the western part of y^e Horizon : & y^e Sun shining through it seem'd perfectly red, & might easily be look'd on with a naked eye, yielding a fainter light than in an Ecclips.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant."

Sept. 29th 1666.

(*To be continued.*)

The Norman Doorways of Yorkshire.

BY J. ROMILLY ALLEN, F.S.A. (SCOT.).

RICCALL.

THE village of Riccall is situated on the east bank of the river Ouse, close to the railway station of the same name, between Selby and York, being four miles distant from the former place, and nine miles from the latter. It was here that Harald Hardrada, of Norway, moored his fleet in A.D. 1066, before advancing upon York, as the position commands the mouth of the Wharfe, up which the English ships had retired. The capitulation of York took place on the 14th of September, after the defeat of the Earls Eadwine and Morkere; Harold of England obtained a decisive victory over Harald of Norway at Stamford Bridge on the 25th of September; and on the 13th of October Harold himself met his death on the field of Senlac. These events, which followed each other in such rapid succession, paving the way to the final triumph of William the Conqueror, are most graphically related by Dr. E. A. Freeman in his "History of the Norman Conquest," but, however interesting may be the associations connected with the strategical position of Riccall in days gone by, we must pass on to matters more immediately concerning the subject of our investigation. The oldest portions of Riccall Church

are the squat Norman tower at the west end of the nave and the south doorway, which is of the same period. The building was restored in 1865, but the work has been done in a conservative manner, and without any attempt to create confusion between the new and the old, by imitating ancient features.

The south doorway, which forms the subject of the present article, is protected by a porch, and the sculptured details are so well preserved that no renewal of the stones was necessary. Consequently, there has been none of that tinkering up of old work of which we had to complain when describing the doorway at St. Margaret's, Walmgate, in York.

The arch of the doorway at Riccall is not semi-circular, but slightly pointed. The character of the carving and general style of the whole show that it is of 12th century date, notwithstanding the shape of the arch. There are, besides the hood moulding which projects from the face of the wall, three orders of mouldings within its thickness, each recessed from 8 to 9 inches beyond the other. The two outer orders of mouldings spring from nook shafts in the angles of the jambs, and the innermost order springs from a moulded jamb, formed into the shape of twin columns with capitals and bases. The breadth of the doorway between the innermost jambs is 4 ft. 2 in. in the centre of the door, and 4 ft. 4 in. at the springing of the arch. The height from the ground up to the point of the arch is 8 ft. 4 in., and from the ground to the springing, 6 ft. 4 in. The door is recessed 2 ft. 3 in. back from the outside face of the wall.

The subjects of the sculpture are as follows :—

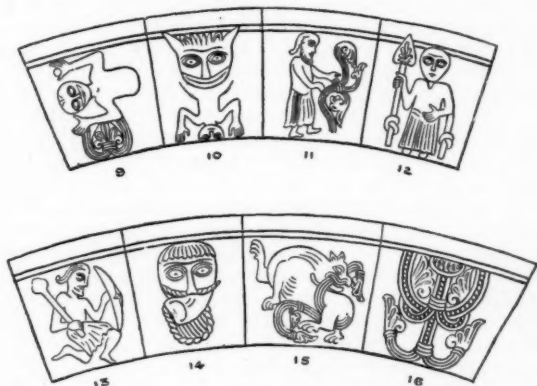
Hood-moulding.—Ornamented with 15 rosettes, 5½ in. diameter.

Outer order of arch-moulding.—Ornamented with 24 beak heads.

Second or middle order of arch-moulding.—16 voussours carved with figure subjects :—

1. Pair of heads, showing full face, one of a man and the other of a beast, with foliage issuing from their mouths.
2. Man in a grotesque attitude, holding up his right leg with his two hands; a staff (?) ornamented with a cable moulding, stuck upright behind him.
3. Two human heads, one showing the face, and with a leaf issuing from his mouth, and the other of smaller size in profile on the right.
4. A dragon with human head, wings, and knotted tail.
5. A beast, curled up, and represented in a bird's-eye view looking down on his back; a piece of foliage below his mouth.
6. A man with a pointed cap on his head, holding a flower or some other object in his hand.
7. A human head, with moustache, forked beard, and cap.
8. A bishop, with cap and chasuble.
9. The upper part of the body of a man, placed sideways, holding up both arms; a piece of foliage below.
10. The head of a beast, with a man placed upside down below.
11. Man standing in front of a tree or piece of foliage.

12. Man holding a sceptre (?) in his right hand, curiously knotted at the bottom.
13. A warrior kneeling down, holding a club in his right hand, and a shield, having a four-pointed star in the centre, in his right.
14. A grotesque human head, with the mouth hideously distorted.
15. A beast biting his tail, which is floriated.
16. A piece of conventional foliage.



NORMAN DOORWAY AT RICCALL.—MIDDLE ORDER OF ARCH-MOULDING.

Third, or innermost order of arch moulding.—12 voussoirs, each carved with a figure subject, except the keystone, which is plain :—

1. St. Michael and the Dragon.
2. Serpent coiled round a tree and eating the fruit.
3. A man binding sheaves of corn (?)
4. A man with long hair, holding an apple in his right hand.
5. A woman in a similar position, holding up an apple; a curious almond-shaped object below.
6. A bird, with wings outspread.
- Keystone, not carved.
7. Beast with floriated tail.
8. Beast playing on the harp.
9. Dragon with knotted tail dancing to the music of the harp.
10. Ring and interlaced work.
11. Intersecting semi-circular arches and foliage.

Capitals of Columns—Right side of doorway, outside.—The head of a king, on whose head is a crown ornamented with three crosses; conventional foliage.

Right side of doorway, inside.—Two saints or ecclesiastics, one holding a ring with a pair of keys attached to it, and the other carrying a book; two small heads.

Left side of doorway.—Both capitals ornamented with foliage.

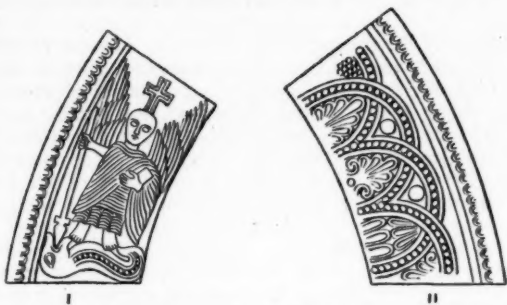
At Riccall we have the same incongruous mixture of undoubtedly scriptural subjects with all sorts of grotesque figures of men and beasts that has been commented upon elsewhere. Thus the problem again suggests itself as to how far these representations, which to modern eyes certainly only appear ridiculous in their extravagance, were intended to have any symbolic meaning connected with the doctrines of Christianity. If they have no such significance, it is difficult to understand why the sculptor should have gone out of his way to outrage the religious feelings of his contemporaries by placing the caricature of a man or a beast next to St. Michael, as at Riccall and at Barton-le-Street, or next to the *Agnus Dei*, as at Alne and at Brayton. Assuming, then, that the apparently grotesque features of mediæval art have some deeper meaning than appears on the surface, an attempt should be made to trace back the origin of each representation to the literary source whence the designer obtained his inspiration, for it is only by patient study of the MSS. of the period that lost systems of symbolism can be recovered. The subjects most commonly found in Christian art may be divided into six principal divisions:—(1) Scriptural, including all scenes taken from the Bible; (2) Apocryphal, taken from the Apocrypha or Apocryphal Gospels; (3) Legendary, taken from the lives of saints and martyrs; (4) Ecclesiastical, all pictures of the offices or ceremonies of the Church; (5) Moral, virtues and vices, seven deadly sins, acts of mercy, and similar subjects connected with the moral or spiritual life; and (6) Bestiary, taken from the mystical zoology of the middle ages.

In examining a series of sculptures used in the decoration of a church, such as those on the doorway at Riccall, the scriptural scenes should be taken first, and then the others which can be explained by comparison with similar representations in MSS. or on inscribed objects. Any residue remaining which yields no result by this process must be classified according to their special peculiarities, leaving the meaning to be found out when fresh facts are brought to light bearing on the matter. Much of the symbolism of the middle ages will probably always be shrouded in mystery, and the sooner we realise the limits of our powers of interpretation the better it will be for archæological science, which has been greatly discredited by the substitution of a system of guesswork for the slower but surer means of arriving at the truth by patient investigation.

The most obviously scriptural subject represented on the doorway at Riccall is St. Michael and the Dragon, on the inner order of arch moulding (No. 1) next the springing on the left hand side. Others about which there is less certainty are the temptation of Adam and Eve, on the inner arch moulding (Nos. 2, 4 and 5), and St. Peter with the keys, on the capital of the inner nook shaft of the right hand jamb.

St. Michael is shown standing on the dragon, down whose throat he is thrusting a spear held in the right hand. He has a cross upon his forehead, and carries a book in the left hand. The triumph of St. Michael over the dragon, as described in the Revelations (xii. 7), is intended to symbolise the victory of good over evil, and in this

respect may be compared with St. George and the Dragon, Christ treading on the asp and the basilisk, Christ bruising the serpent's head, and the opposition of the seven virtues to the seven vices. The scene of the conflict between St. Michael and the Dragon is



NORMAN DOORWAY AT RICCALL.—INNER ORDER OF ARCH-MOULDING.

represented in two different ways :—(1) where the Archangel is armed with a sword and shield, and is engaged in the act of fighting with the dragon ; and (2) where he is trampling his enemy beneath his feet, and giving him his *coup de grace* with a spear, or the cross. The example at Riccall belongs to the latter type, and others may be seen in the Norman doorway at Barton-le-Street, in Yorkshire, on a slab of early sculpture at Seaford, in Sussex, and on the seal of the Port of Hastings. The scene of St. Michael and the Dragon should not be confused with St. George and the Dragon. St. George is generally on horseback, but St. Michael on foot, and with a pair of wings as a distinctive feature. There are several instances in Norman sculpture of a warrior on foot contending with a dragon,* which are difficult to identify either with St. George or St. Michael. Stories of battles between heroes and dragons are frequently met with in the folk-lore and mythology of Scandinavia, so that it is not surprising to find a heathen legend used for Christian purposes in those parts of England where the Danes settled down and were converted. The dragons with which St. Michael is fighting on the tympana at Southwell, and at Hoveringham, in Nottinghamshire, have interlaced work very much resembling that on the carved wooden doorways of early churches in Sweden and Norway.

On the tympanum at Hoveringham a young dragon is placed by the side of the old dragon, and interlaced most curiously with it. This slaying of the dragon's offspring is referred to in the Scandinavian legends. Prof. George Stephens, of Copenhagen, believes that many of the representations of heroes and dragons fighting, are taken from the story of King Theodorik and the Drake, as related

* At St. Bees, Cumberland ; Ault Hucknall and Steetly Chapel, Derbyshire ; Coningsburgh, Yorkshire ; and Thorp Arnold, Leicestershire.

in the *Vilkina Saga* (see his paper "On a Runic Door from Ireland," in the "*Archæologia Scotica*," vol. V., p. 253). Olaus Magnus in his "*Historia de Gentibus Septentrionalibus*," Romæ MDLV, devotes the 21st chapter of his fifth book to a battle between King Harold and a dragon ("De pugna Haraldi Regis contra draconem domesticum").

The subject of St. Michael and the Dragon does not occur in the paintings of the Catacombs, or on the mosaics of the Italian churches, and the earliest examples I have come across are of the tenth or eleventh century, in the Saxon Psalter in the British Museum,* (Tib. C. vi.); in a MS. from the Abbey of Prune;† and the Vatican *Menologium Grecum*.‡ There is a very curious sculptured slab, perhaps of Saxon date, built into the interior wall of St. Nicholas Church, Ipswich, with a representation of St. Michael and the Dragon, inscribed "Her Sc. Michael fehtidh dane draca" (Here St. Michael fighteth the dragon). The shape of St. Michael's shield is in this case, and on the tympanum at Hoveringham, pointed similar to those on the Bayeux tapestry, and on the other sculptures already referred to where a man is fighting a dragon, at St. Bees, Ault Hucknall, Coningsburgh, and Steetly. I would suggest that where this peculiarity occurs the scene has been copied from a Scandinavian original, perhaps illustrating a pagan legend. The circular shield is to be seen on the tympana at Southwell, Notts.; Hallaton, Leicestershire; and Moreton Valence, Gloucestershire, corresponding to the miniatures in the MSS.

The worship of St. Michael is to a great extent to be traced to the legends of his four miraculous apparitions, the last of which is supposed to have taken place on Mont St. Michel, in Normandy, in A.D. 706. Since then he has been venerated as the patron saint of France, and high places and rocks are dedicated to his honour at St. Michael's Mount, in Cornwall; Skelig Michel, off the west coast of Ireland, and elsewhere. The other scenes, besides the contest with the dragon, in which St. Michael appears in Christian art, are carrying souls to heaven,§ and weighing souls at the last judgment.|| The Greek Painters' guide from Mount Athos¶ adds several other scenes in which St. Michael is the principal actor, but this does not apply to the representations of the western church. Descriptions of the apparitions and miracles of St. Michael will be found in the *Golden Legend* of Jaques de Voragine. The cross on the forehead of the Archangel at Riccall is a noticeable feature. It also occurs at Barton-le-Street, and on a 14th century slab at Kildare Cathedral, in Ireland.

* Prof. I. O. Westwood's "*Miniatures*," pl. 46.

† Didron's "*Christian Iconography*," edited by Miss Stokes, vol. 2, p. 184, *Gradual Bibl. Nat. Paris*, Lat. 9448.

‡ No. 1613.

§ As on a 12th century sepulchral monument in Ely Cathedral.

|| As on the Cross of Muiredach at Monasterboice, and on a 12th century fresco at Chaldon, in Surrey.

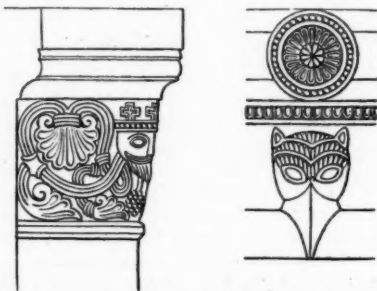
¶ Didron's "*Christian Iconography*," edited by Miss Stokes, vol. 2, p. 361.

The serpent coiled round the tree on voussoir No. 3 of the inner arch-moulding of the doorway at Riccall is like that which occurs in the temptation of Adam and Eve. Perhaps the male and female figures holding apples, on voussoirs Nos. 4 and 5, may be intended for Adam and Eve, but if so they must be wrongly placed. A somewhat similar set of sculptures is to be seen on the Norman doorway at Barton-le-Street.



NORMAN DOORWAY AT RICCALL.—CAPITAL OF INNER COLUMN ON RIGHT SIDE.

On the capital of the inner nook-shaft of the right jamb of the doorway at Riccall are two little figures, one holding a book, and the other a pair of keys attached to a ring on the end of a rod. The figure holding the keys may perhaps be intended for St. Peter, but there is no nimbus round the head. Sometimes one of the officers of the church was represented with a key in virtue of his office. The capital of one of the columns on the right side of the doorway at Brayton, in Yorkshire, is almost identical with the one at Riccall, except that the keys have a more ornamental form of handle, and one of the figures holds a crozier. The capital of the column next

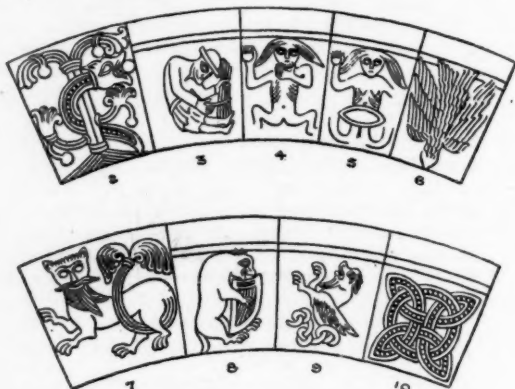


NORMAN DOORWAY AT RICCALL.—CAPITAL OF OUTER COLUMN ON RIGHT SIDE, AND BEAK HEAD ORNAMENT ON OUTER ORDER OF ARCH-MOULDING.

to the one just described has a head at the corner wearing a crown surmounted by three crosses. This is presumably the more ancient

form of regal crown, which preceded the present one with the fleur-de-lys. Other examples of this shape of crown exist at Barton-le-Street, in Yorkshire, and in the Baptistry of the Duomo at Spalato, in Dalmatia.*

On voussoir No. 8 of the middle order of the arch moulding of the doorway at Riccall is the figure of a bishop wearing the chasuble, amice, and a cap on the head. The mitre was not introduced until the 13th century, and representations of bishops with any kind of head-dress before this date are very rare. Mr. M. H. Bloxham, in his admirable "Companion to Gothic Architecture," mentions a few effigies of ecclesiastics of the 12th century, but he does not appear to have examined the sculptured details of Norman churches in order to collect information about the vestments of the period. There are other instances of a bishop wearing the same shaped cap as the one at Riccall, on the Norman fonts at Winchester Cathedral and St. Nicholas, Brighton.



NORMAN DOORWAY AT RICCALL.—INNER ORDER OF ARCH-MOULDING.

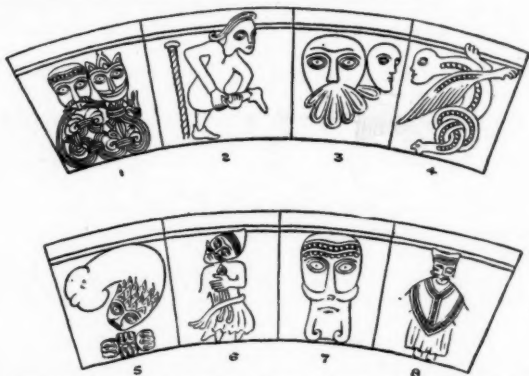
On voussoir No. 3 of the inner order of arch moulding of the doorway at Riccall, is a man apparently binding a sheaf of corn. Perhaps this may be one of the series of the months described in the last article. On voussoirs Nos. 6 and 7 are an eagle† and a lion, which are possibly intended for two of the evangelistic symbols, as they are often represented without the nimbus. The beasts playing musical instruments and dancing, on voussoirs Nos. 8 and 9, belong to a well-known class of grotesque,‡ other instances of which may

* T. G. Jackson's "Dalmatia," vol. 2, p. 69.

† Similar birds occur amongst the beak heads round the arch of the Norman doorway at Brayton, in Yorkshire.

‡ Some interesting information on this subject is to be found in Herr Eckl's articles on "Christian Symbolical Zoology," in the first two volumes of the "Sacristy."

be seen at St. Margaret's, Walmgate, York; Barton-le-Street and Bishop Wilton, Yorkshire; Ely Cathedral; Barfreston, in Kent; St. Mary's Church, Torquay, and elsewhere. It has been suggested that such extravagant figures were intended to symbolise those worldly pleasures and vices against which the Church has through all ages raised its voice. In the story of the Syren and the Centaur in the Bestiary, the verse from Isaiah (ch. xiii. 21) describing the desolation of Babylon is thus quoted, "Their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there." This may possibly explain some of the dancing beasts. On voussour No. 2 of the middle order of arch moulding is a man in a most extraordinary attitude, holding up one leg with his two hands, reminding one of the picture of the colonial bishop learning to dance, in one of W. S. Gilbert's "Bab Ballads." Whether the object of the designer was to warn the congregation against the wickedness of amusement as represented by a tumbling clown, or whether the clergy winked at such things, and allowed the sculptor to indulge his fancy occasionally in his own way, will probably never be known. The attitude of mind which could derive moral benefit from the contemplation of such monstrosities, is almost as absurd as the bodily attitude in which this poor little creature of stone has been compelled to stand for the last seven hundred years.



NORMAN DOORWAY AT RICCALL.—MIDDLE ORDER OF ARCH-MOULDING.

I lately came across a passage in Perkins' "Italian Sculptors,"* which is so interesting, as bearing on this subject, that, in conclusion, I propose to quote it at full length. It is the earliest notice in an English book that I have been able to find, pointing out the value of the study of the Bestiary to explain the meaning of the symbolic decorations of the 12th century churches.

"There is this capital difference between Oriental and Christian

* Chas. C. Perkins' "Italian Sculptors," London, 1868, p. 9.

symbolism, that, in the first, natural forms are represented for worship as symbolic of deities, or as typical of natural forces or phenomena; while, in the second, they are signs of hidden religious meaning, and as such are often described by the Church Fathers, who, while regarding all created things as witnesses to the power and intelligence of the Supreme Being, considered them chiefly worthy of attention in so far as they could, by an often strained interpretation, be made to conduce to man's moral advancement. Frequently incorrect ideas about the nature and properties of animals, they did not seek to separate the true from the false, since, as St. Augustine remarks, 'The all important object for us to consider is the signification of the fact, and not to discuss its authenticity.' This habit of looking for a symbol in every created thing, led to a system of mystical zoology contained in the *Physiologus* or *Bestiary*, a work which explains the now forgotten meaning of many of the strange forms carved about the façades of mediæval churches. The first sentence in the version of the *Bestiary* made by Peter of Picardy, clearly sets forth the object for which it was composed. 'Here commences the book which is called *Bestiary*, and it is so called because it speaks of the nature of beasts; for God created all the creatures upon earth for man, and that he may in them find an example of faith and source of belief.' So, also, William of Normandy tells us, that 'all the examples collected in the book are intended for the amelioration of sinful man and for the profit of his soul.'

Then follow extracts from the *Physiologus* describing the lion, the tiger, and the cock.

"The mediæval sculptor who represented these and the many other animals described in the *Physiologus*, was probably not animated by as deliberate a purpose as the learned doctors of the Church in their treatises and homilies, for he dealt only with the sign, and left to his spiritual teachers its interpretation, which was less generally understood as it became more recondite. In the earlier periods of the Church the simpler forms of symbolism were clear to all disciples, and only to them; their very object, indeed, being that the initiated might possess a language which was a dead letter to the heathen. To this language, which had become dear to them in hours of danger, they clung long after the establishment of their religion, not only from force of habit, but from a repugnance to images of holy persons, which suggested idolatry, and also from a reverence to the commandment of the Jewish law. Gradually, however, these feelings were weakened, and, even before the final blow was given to art symbolism in the seventh century by the permission to represent Christ and the Saints and the mystery of the Passion, many of the old forms had lost their mystical significance, and were used only because well adapted for decorative purposes.

"How far this had become the case in the thirteenth century is shown by a striking passage in the writings of St. Bernard against extravagance in the decoration of churches, 'whose walls glow with colour, and whose stones are covered with gold, while the poor are in

want and go naked.' 'What,' he says, 'is the use of those absurd monstrosities displayed in the cloisters before the reading monks? See what deformed beauty and what beautiful deformity. Why are unclean monkeys and savage lions, and monstrous centaurs, and semi-men and spotted tigers, and fighting soldiers and pipe-playing hunters represented? You may see there many bodies with one head, and one body with many heads. Here a quadruped with the tail of a serpent, there a fish with the head of a quadruped. Here a beast half horse and half goat, there another with horns and a horse's body. The variety of form is so great everywhere that marbles are more pleasant reading than manuscripts, and the whole day is spent in looking at them, instead of meditating upon the law of God.* Did we not possess the writings of the early Church Fathers, we might accept the argument furnished by this passage against there having been hidden meanings of high religious import in this symbolism; but we must remember that St. Bernard saw that little or no account was made in his day of the only reason which could ever have authorised its employment about sacred buildings."

Recent Investigations at Fountains Abbey.

THE Yorkshire Archæological Society, following up their work at Easby Abbey, have undertaken further excavations at Fountains, leave having been granted by the Marquis of Ripon. Mr. W. H. St. John Hope has had charge of the work, and we are enabled to give his report.

"I took up my abode at Fountains on September 1st, but the weather was so unfavourable that for the first ten or fourteen days little systematic work could be attempted. The bad weather, however, was not without a good side, as I was able to occupy time that would otherwise have been taken up by supervising my men in making a careful and thorough examination of the buildings. The result is that I have been able to disentangle the whole of the architectural history, and to trace the gradual growth of the building from its original normal plan. I have also been able to assign to several of the buildings their proper attributions, all of which will be duly set forth in my paper on the Abbey. So much additional light has been thrown on Cistercian buildings by a careful examination of Fountains, to which must be added most important documentary evidence that has since come to hand, that Mr. Mickelthwaite and I shall have much pleasure in offering to the Association a new and enlarged paper on the 'Cistercian Plan.'

"With regard to the actual work done at Fountains, it will be convenient first to speak of the church.

"Here I laid bare for measurement the procession stones beneath the turf in the nave, and have traced the limits of the stall pits eastward. I have also been able to fix the positions of the various screens and altars. I am happy to say, too, that Lord Ripon has had much of the ivy removed, especially in the north transept, where it was really a source of danger in loosening the stonework of the clerestory, and thereby weakening the abutments of the south buttresses of the great tower.

"Concerning the buildings. I began by making a number of trial cuttings on the site of buildings south-west of the *cellarium*. The results were most promising, and show that a number of buildings in this direction remain to be explored

* Sancti Bernardi opera, Paris, 1690, Vol. I, p. 538, ch. xii.

and investigated, which will yield valuable results. I soon, however, quitted this tempting spot in order to thoroughly investigate the great infirmary. Since its excavation under Mr. Walbran's direction the weeds and small shrubs have done much to partly obscure what was then laid bare. I was allowed to remove all these, and again brought to view a number of most interesting points. Two or three chambers, which had never been cleared out, next occupied my attention. These were thoroughly excavated down to their floor levels, and now take their proper place in the arrangements of the infirmary buildings. The great passage from the cloister to the infirmary hall was partly cleared by Mr. Walbran, but a large accumulation of rubbish had been left midway to sustain a picturesque ash-tree covered with ivy. The demise of the parasite did away with the necessity for keeping the ash-tree. I therefore cut it down and cleared away the rubbish, thus throwing open the whole length of the passage, and laying bare a solitary, but complete example of the series of arches that once formed an open arcade on each side of the passage. Close to the south-east angle of the Chapter House I laid open a curious ashpit, lined with encaustic tiles.

"Among minor operations I made an effort to ascertain the extent and size of the great western gatehouse. Its foundations are now underground; but I uncovered enough to show that there is interesting work to be done here next September.

"Just outside the gatehouse is what I take to be the 'chapel without the gate,' which the Cistercians seem always to have built. I hope, too, to lay bare the whole plan of this.

"There are, as I have already said, many buildings still to be explored, and I regret that the expiration of my holiday prevented my going on with this most interesting work. Should the Association think well to complete their explorations this autumn I shall be only too glad to place my services at their disposal."

We are informed that the funds at the disposal of the Council are well nigh exhausted; but an effort will be made to raise enough to complete this most useful and valuable work.

Gleanings from Close Rolls of Henry III.

BY JUSTIN SIMPSON.

Continued from page 49.

July 17 (Feckham). Seisin by Alex. de Nevill of the lands of which Alex. his father died seised, as he, having been in the custody of Richd. de Alencun, is now of age, and has done homage, &c. (Lincs. and Yorks).

July 23 (Worcester) Deliverance on bail of John, son of Baldr., Henry, son of Toly and wife Agnes, till it can be known whether Laurence, son of Baldr(ick), of whose death they were accused is dead or not, as it is said he had gone on a pilgrimage to Bromholm and was never seen dead (Linc).

Ralph de Brethel and Hugh de Prille, attorneys of John de Essex v. Grace de Saleby, concerning restoration of chattels (Linc).

July 26. The King commands the men of Beverley to purchase cloth in the fairs of Stowe for the King's use, also in Leicester and Lincoln.

Aug. 17 (Geitinton). Hasculf de Nevill, forester for Rutland, commanded not to permit any one to hunt in the wood or demense of Withcut (Leic.) which the king has taken into his hands henceforward to remain forest. The King gives a buck in Rockingham forest, and one in Clyve forest, to Richd. de Watervill.

Aug. 28 (Wirkesop). Sheriff of Notts. commanded to receive Gerard Duble, servant of the Earl Warenn, from the Sheriff of Yorks., and keep him in the king's prison. Sheriff of Notts., on 30 Sept. ordered him to deliver to the Earl of Derby to be brought to London to meet the King, and on 16 Oct., deliverance from prison at Nottingham, Willm., Earl W., having become bail for him.

Aug. 28 (Nottingham). Timber in forest of Gatele for the bridges of Rockingham, and for covering the king's house in the castle.

Geoffrey de Rocking(am), attorney of Hugh, son of Michael. *v.* Robt., son of Geoff., Adam, son of Richd., and Martin, son of Geoff., concerning land in Luffenham. Eustace, Canon of Royston, and Henry de Pelham, prior of Royston, attorneys of prior of Royston concerning lands in Ouresby, Thornewton, Camthorp, and Fengotby, Lincs. Oliver de Ramsey and Henry de Northampton, attorneys of Richard, prior of Huntingdon, concerning customs, &c., demanded by Ralph Sansaver in Croxton, Cambs., also *v.* Hugh de Boby (Lincs).

Sept. 3 (Portsmouth). Sheriff Lincoln commanded to cause assizes of novel disseisin to come before the king at Lincoln.

[Assise of Novel Disseisin was an action instituted by a person (the deft) who alleged that he had been wrongfully, and without judgment of any court (*injuste et sine judicio*), put out of seisin (disseised) of his freehold by another person (the deforciant) at a period described as recent (whence the term "novel"), the recency of the disseisin being defined by limitations which were altered by statute from time to time. In 1 E. I. the disseisin was "novel" if it had been effected after the first passage of H. 3 into Brittany, 42 years before. This limitation was altered verbally, at least, by the statute of Westminster the first (cap. 39). And (Blackstone III. 10) the limitation settled by that act remained unaltered until 1540, so that, in legal language, an event was considered in that year to be recent which was 310 years old. The word "disseisin" was employed in a very wide sense. It applied not only to the violent and unjust ejectment from a freehold of the possessor, his agent, or family, but to the cases in which, in the absence of the possessor, no one else having been left in possession, another person took possession and denied him admittance on his return; or in which the possessor was impeded entirely or partially in the use of his freehold; or where one made use of it by ploughing, digging, reaping, and carrying, against the will of the possessor, and under the contention that the freehold was not his, but that of the person so acting; or by turning in cattle, or otherwise imposing a servitude on land hitherto free; or by making an improper use of an easement to which one had a right in the land of another; or by distraining for services not due, or in excess of the reasonable distress; or by claiming to use with the right possessor "*velit, nolit*" (*i.e.*, willing or unwilling); or by impeding him from peaceful and quiet use by raising an unjust contention with him.-- Henry de Bracton's (a justice who died some time after 52 H. 3 (1267) *De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ*, Vol. 3., pp. 15-19.)]

Quarterly Notes on Archæological Progress and Development.

THE new number of the TRANSACTIONS OF THE CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND ANTIQUARIAN AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY is nearly ready for issue. It will contain important genealogical papers by Mr. W. Jackson, F.S.A., and others by Rev. W. S. Calverley, F.S.A., on pre-Norman sculptured stones. No arrangements have yet been made for the society's meetings for this year, but the council will meet shortly to decide.

An interesting discovery has just been made in Cumberland: a fragment of Roman sculpture, built into the wall of an outbuilding of a farm near WIGTON, has been recognised as a portion of a reproduction of the famous HERMES OF PRAXITELES, which the Germans got out from Olympia. Hermes, in the original, is represented as holding little Bacchus in his left arm, shewing him a grape with his right, the child joyfully grasping it. The portion of the reproduction preserved in Cumberland is the left arm of Hermes, holding the little Bacchus. An engraving of this was inserted, as a tail piece in the proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and was recognized by Professor Hübner.

The weather has hindered work at the site of the NEW MARKETS IN CARLISLE, but an immense quantity of fragments of ROMAN POTTERY have been found, and taken to the Carlisle Museum: they are of all sorts, and have furnished several new names of potters. Mr. Chancellor Ferguson has, so far as possible, compiled a list of all Roman potters' marks found in Carlisle, which will appear in the *Archæologia Eliana*, including those on the pottery in the Carlisle Museum, in the collections of Mr. Ferguson of Morton, of Mr. Fisher of Bank Street, and others, as well as on the pottery just found. One beautiful object has been found on the site of the New Markets, a most beautiful hone stone of quartzite, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, square in section, which at the thickest part is about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch, and tapering to the ends. These hones are generally found in association with objects of the bronze period, and a bronze pin was found with this example. Few coins have been found: at least very few reach the hands of the authorities.

The Chancellor of Carlisle is preparing for submission to the Society of Antiquaries of London, an elaborate account of "The retreat of the Highlanders through Westmorland in 1745;" a subject that has never yet been done justice to, previous writers having had no local knowledge, and not having access to maps and letters, which the Chancellor has had the advantage of seeing. The Chancellor lectured on this subject at Penrith some time ago, with the result of reviving in people's minds and bringing to light many interesting traditions.



A great many persons will have their interest in the ROMAN WALL stimulated by the Bishop of Carlisle's account in *Murray's Magazine* for December last, of a three days' pilgrimage he and a merry party made along the best parts of the Roman Wall, between the North Tyne and Lanercost; and a considerable influx of pilgrims to the Shaws' Hotel, Gilsland, may be expected during this year. But pilgrims should be cautioned that a visit, nay, even a long acquaintance with the show pieces of the Wall will not qualify the setting up of theories as to the dates of Wall and Vallum, unless the theorist has also patiently followed the Wall through the less interesting portions, right from sea to sea. No one is competent to give an opinion as to the relative date of Wall and Vallum, unless he has carefully studied those four miles of wall, where the Eden forms its north ditch: yet few antiquaries ever find their way there—from the North Tyne to Lanercost, or perhaps to Carlisle, they follow the wall, and then think they have seen everything.



Much controversy has been caused by the discovery of a stone coffin, containing the bones of a man, in the crypt of CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL. The site of the discovery is within that small portion of the crypt which was for centuries called

"BECKET'S TOMB," or the "Tomb of St. Thomas," because the body of the murdered archbishop was first interred there by the monks in December, 1170. This coffin was carefully laid, in the place of highest honour, upon the central line, from east to west, of the crypt, and within four feet west of the steps that led up to the "altar of the tomb of St. Thomas."

It is a singular fact, of great significance, that, in the year, 1546, Richard Thorndon, the second bishop of Dover, who had long been a member of the old priory of Christ Church, managed to get the public excluded from this small portion of the Crypt. He obtained it for his own private use as a cellar. No other part of the crypt was thus rendered inaccessible to the public; but the portion, called "Becket's Tomb," remained thus private and secluded for more than three hundred years. Bishop Thorndon was such a shrewd man of business that he had been chosen to manage the various landed estates of the priory for many years. Had not he some very cogent reason for thus getting this site made private?

Probably the concealment of the coffin, the contents of which were evidently relics, placed hurriedly, yet reverently, within this hidden receptacle, was the real motive for the unique action of the second bishop of Dover. It was only a few inches beneath the surface. If Becket's bones were not burned in September, 1538, it is at least possible that they were the relics which now rest again within that stone coffin.



The great interest taken by the public in the spirited action of the PLUMBERS' COMPANY, for the purpose of ensuring better regulations in connection with the various branches of their trade, has led to a decision, to put upon record what is known, from documents in the possession of the Company, of the early foundation and subsequent history of the Guild. This is now being proceeded with by Mr. Price, F.S.A., who recently edited the "Historical Description of Guildhall," for the Corporation of London. The earliest ordinances or bye-laws belong to the reigns of Edward III. and Henry VII. The Company possesses, moreover, the Charter of Incorporation of the time of James I.—records associated with the old system of apprenticeship from 1511 to 1680.—Quarterage books, containing many entries of interest—the minutes of the court, ranging from 1691 to the year 1808—Accounts book of receipts and disbursements from the year 1662 to the year 1799. Also an interesting record known as the "Soldier Book," giving particulars of assays, blocks, marks, and date of sealing, from 1785 to 1844. There are also many curious Deeds, etc., commencing with the reign of William and Mary, 1689, to the year 1863, connected with the purchase and transfer of leasehold property, which contain many details of interest; as well as numerous copies of wills, awards of arbitration, bonds and other matters. Mr. Price's book, which is to be entitled "The History of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers," is sure of a hearty welcome.



The late Professor Lönnrot occupied himself for several years in orally collecting the ballads of Finland. These he afterwards wove into a connected whole, entitled KALEVALA, from the name of the country of the heroes whose exploits are celebrated in the poems. The Kalevala has always been regarded as a work of great value to scholars and antiquaries, on account of the living picture it presents of the customs, manners, ancient religion, and traditions of the Finns. Complete translations of the Kalevala exists in German, French, and Swedish, and we are heartily glad to learn that Mr. Kirby, the compiler of the biographical appendix to Burton's edition of the "Thousand and One Nights," has decided to issue an English edition of the entire work, upon which he has been engaged for some years. The work will form two volumes, of about 500 pages each, and will be issued to subscribers at 21s. Names should be sent to Mr. Kirby, at 5, Burlington Gardens, Chiswick.



A curious SECRET CHEST was lately found at RENISHAW, Derbyshire, during the alterations now being made. It was concealed in the floor of a bedroom, and was made of oak boards, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch thick, and bound together very strongly with

iron bands, which were turned over at the top and fixed to the joists on either side. The box is 5 feet 2½ inches long, by 1 foot 1½ inches broad, and 5½ inches deep, outside measurement. It may have been used to conceal arms, money or papers, and is probably of the time of the civil war, or even earlier. It is supposed that it was originally covered by a sliding board. The present floor runs transversely, and was probably put down a hundred years ago, at which date the chest, if it contained anything, must have been noticed and rifled.

It was in this room that, some five years ago, a lady (who died a year afterwards) had a rather curious experience. She was far away from the other occupied bedrooms, and in the dead of night heard slow approaching footsteps, and three distinct raps upon the door. Upon the invitation, "Come in," the door opened, and something unearthly entered and seated itself in an armchair by the fire. The lady fainted without looking to see what it was. Any ghost that repeats these tactics at the present moment will get a heavy fall into the basement, as the floor of the room has been removed.



The summer excursions of the enterprising BRADFORD HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY are as follows:—May—Cross Hall, Howley Hall, Batley Church and Bierley Hall; June—Holdsworth House and Ovenden Hall; July—Hornby Castle and Shibden Hall and Shibden Dale; August (Bank Holiday)—The Fairfax country, including Bilbrough Hall and Church, Newton Kyme, Steeton Hall and Boston Spa; September—Thornhill Hall and Church. At the meeting of the Society on February 10th, a valuable and interesting paper on the Halls of East Riddlesden and West Riddlesden, in the valley of Airedale, was read by Mr. W. A. Brigg. East Riddlesden Hall, as it now appears, was built in 1640; West Riddlesden about 200 years ago. The ghastly story of the unhappy Murgatroyds, who held East Riddlesden in the 17th century, was told by Mr. Brigg with much detail; it affords a striking instance of the barbarity of gaol treatment of those days.



We have received the third part of the 10th vol. of the JOURNAL of the YORKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION. It is a good number, the best paper being the continuation of the account by Mr. H. E. Chetwynd-Stapylton, of the Templars, at Templehurst. Surely, however, the Cistercian Statutes, carefully as they are edited by Rev. J. F. Fowler, are out of place in a provincial antiquarian journal. During 1888 and 1889, the Society propose to issue the late Mr. Burton's History of Hemingborough, edited by Rev. Canon Raine. The Rev. Dr. Cox has undertaken to edit the late Sir Stephen Glynn's MS. notes on Yorkshire churches, kindly lent to him by Right Honourable W. E. Gladstone, M.P.



The annual meeting of the energetic LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY was held on the 20th of January, with Mr. C. W. Sutton in the chair. Ten meetings had been held during the summer. At the winter meetings, in Chetham's Library, thirty-four addresses, papers, and short communications had been given; the meetings being well attended. Two special meetings had been held in the Royal Jubilee Exhibition, and two meetings at Owen's College.

At the February meeting, in Chetham's College, Mr. Geo. C. Yates, F.S.A., exhibited a tinder-box, flint and steel, and a bundle of brimstone matches, gun-flints, round flint scrapers, from Rudstone, and a photo of strike-o'lights, made by an old man in Malaga for stock, or to pattern, as people required them. Mr. Yates read a short communication on the different modes of producing fire, and made some interesting remarks in reference to "Need fire." Mr. Bulkeley read a short paper on the execution of John Hewitt, D.D., of Eccles, near Manchester. Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A., gave an interesting description of the books and pamphlets relating to Dr. Hewitt. It had been stated in many bibliographical dictionaries that Hewitt was born in the county of Norfolk but up to that time he had been unable to account for the origin of the story. He had searched the

registers at Eccles, and had found that the baptism of Hewitt took place in that church on the 4th September, 1614, so that, to his mind, there could be no doubt that Dr. Hewitt was a Lancashire man.

Mr. Samuel Andrew read a paper on "Some Oldham provincialisms," and Mr. Geo. Esdaile, a paper on the Geographical Origin of the Romans serving in Britain. In the course of this paper, which was technical in character, he suggested a new reading of the inscription on the Roman altar discovered at Boughton, near Chester, which, in his opinion, should read, "Genus Naverni," instead of "Genus Averni."

At the March meeting, Mr. Nathan Heywood gave a short communication on the cup and ring stones found on the rocks near Rumbolt's Moor, Ilkley. He attributed their form to their use as mediums for astronomical observations.

Mr. Robert Langton read an interesting paper, on an Obscure Funeral Custom. He said that he had had his attention called to a very curious fact. It was, briefly, that in Celtic or British interments, all over England, whether the bodies had been buried entire or burnt to ashes, it had been proved that in constructing the mound or barrow, after depositing the remains, fragments of flint, mingled with fragments of pottery and pebbles, had been found through all the mass of the tumulus. It was quite certain that this could not be accidental, and equally certain that it has not been done by ignorant explorers of the mounds who, some with very little discernment, had been charged with scattering the remains together with any flints, potsherds, &c., that might have been found with the ashes, in their unholy search for expected treasure. That last notion was quite untenable. Bateman noticed those scattered deposits of flints and potsherds, and said of them, that many diggers have been thrown off the scent by finding fragments of pottery; and goes on to say, that so far from these fragments proving that the interment had been previously disturbed, he came to the conclusion that, when these flints were found near the surface and extending through the whole mass, they were then about to open the graves of pre-historic man. That opinion had been adopted by others, and he believed that it was now generally accepted as true. Mr. Langton then gave a number of examples, showing the universality of the custom in England at a period so remote as to be beyond the dawn of history.



A Society has been formed, termed the "CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION OF BRASS COLLECTORS." The first number of their transactions is an unpretentious but most practical little pamphlet. It contains a paper on Ecclesiastical Vestments, by Mr. T. L. Murray, the commencement of a record of publications and articles that treat on the subject of Monumental Brasses, and a useful list of brass-rubbing exchanges. A good list of all books and articles on the subject would be most valuable, but the works and papers should be more fully and technically described than they are in this number to be of real worth. We notice among the queries the somewhat searching and important one, "Are charges made by clergymen for rubbing brasses legal?" To this the following is, we believe, the true answer. "No; but the incumbent can forbid the brasses being rubbed." The Society hopes to issue a pamphlet after each of their terminal meetings. They also propose shortly to publish a handbook of the Brasses of Cambridgeshire.



At the February meeting of the CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, Mr. Magnusson read a paper of exceptional interest on four Runic Calendars, originals of these of which were exhibited, one belonging to Mr. Gurney of Reigate, and two to the Cambridge museum; of the fourth, belonging to the Mannheim museum in Germany, a copy was exhibited, showing that this book-formed calendar was carved on six plates of wood. Mr. Magnusson's comments on the different features of the three runic staves exhibited, showed that the comparative study of these stick calendars, of which not a few remain, will well repay every attention. Mr. Gurney's calendar was in several points the most interesting. It began the year on April 14th (St. Tiburtius' day); divided it into two semesters, winter and summer half-year; left out the 31st of December; and had golden numbers of a type quite peculiar to itself.

From the spirited POWYS-LAND CLUB we have received the third part of the 21st vol. of their *Collections Historical and Archaeological relating to Montgomeryshire*. It comprises the report of the twentieth annual meeting, and a list of donations and donors to the Powys-Land museum. We are glad to learn that Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, at the suggestion of this Society, has under consideration the issue of a volume on *Roman Wales* (Northern Division), on the plan of his important *Roman Cheshire*.



The Anniversary Meeting of the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE was held in the Castle on January 25th. The chairman, Earl of Ravensworth, drew attention to the interesting excavations going on at Holy Island, characterising them as one of the most noteworthy events of the day in the way of antiquarian research, the grand Chapter House now brought to view being connected with the earliest days of Christianity in Northumbria. Mr. C. C. Hodges gave an account of the recently highly important discovery of the inscription *Acca sanctus ecclesie hujus* on one of the stones from Hexham, now at Durham, which places beyond all doubt the previous surmise that they form part of the cross erected to the memory of St. Acca, who died A.D. 740. The Acca cross is to be set up in the cathedral library at Durham, and when put together will form a monument some fifteen feet in height, and will rival in its grandeur (though it is the grandeur of decay), the celebrated monuments at Ruthwell and Bewcastle.

At the monthly meeting, on February 29th, Mr. C. C. Hodges gave an account of the recent excavations and discoveries at Lindisfarne Priory. Among the papers promised for future meetings is one on Hulme Abbey, by W. H. St. John Hope.



Whenever excavations of any depth are made within the bounds of the city of EXETER, it is pretty certain that some remains of the former inhabitants will be found. Some alterations have been recently made by Mr. Shepherd at the back of his house in Fore Street; and before the work was commenced the owner, very wisely, reminded the men employed that they were likely to meet with objects, if not of value, of interest, and gave them strict injunctions to preserve everything they came across, promising to reward them. The result has been that Mr. Shepherd has obtained quite a little museum. The most valuable specimen, probably, is a specimen of what is considered Roman glass, and consists of the neck and handle of a bottle. The former is about eight inches in length; the handle is flat, and fluted on the outside. The colour is a bluish green. There are two kinds of pottery: the black coated, and the ordinary Samian ware, and of this there is enough to show the custom and decoration of three large bowls, all different in shape and ornamentation. There are several Roman coins, and a silver penny of Edward I., and a larger coin of the same date; an Exeter token, 1669, and some Swiss money. There is, also, a bead of bright blue stone, pierced and fluted. It is to be hoped the collection will be examined and reported upon by some competent authority, and that it may find a resting place in the capital museum of the city.



THE BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY held a meeting at the close of last year, at Tockington Park, near Thornbury, Gloucestershire, to inspect a fine Roman villa, which had been discovered there in the summer by some labourers who were digging the foundation for a wall. A fund had been raised, by private subscription, and the excavations were directed by Sir John Maclean, F.S.A. On visiting Tockington Park the members found that a great many rooms had been exposed, and that five tessellated pavements, some of the most beautiful, had been uncovered. The Rev. Prebendary Scarth and Sir John Maclean, gave very interesting information about this villa. It is intended to give some excellent chromo-lithographic prints of the pavements, and a full description of the villa, in the twelfth volume of the society's transactions.

The spring meeting of the society for 1888 will be held at Chipping Sodbury, at the end of May, and the summer congress will be held at Gloucester on the 6th or 23rd of June, and the three following days. It has been decided to hold a public meeting on the last day of the summer congress to which the citizens of Gloucester will be invited, and popular addresses will be given on the history of the cathedral and city of Gloucester.



We are glad to learn that the SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY have decided to issue a catalogue *raisonné* of the CHURCH PLATE of the shire. Mr. G. C. Williamson is the chairman of the committee formed for this purpose.



At FRINDSBURY, near Rochester, more discoveries of ROMAN REMAINS have been recently made near Quarry House. Among many fragments of pottery, there is one work of art. It is a bronze figure of Cupid, about four inches high, effectively posed, and well modelled. It will be engraved by the Kent Archaeological Society for the next volume of *Archæologia Cantiana*.

The seventeenth volume of the *Archæologia Cantiana* was issued to members of that Society soon after Christmas last. It contains twenty-eight papers of various merit and fifty-five illustrations, which greatly enhance the attractiveness of the bulky volume.

The unusual word "MOLE," in the sense of "rent," or "yearly hire," or "ferm," paid for cows or sheep belonging to a parish, has been noticed lately by Canon Scott Robertson, in some Kentish churchwardens' accounts of the sixteenth century. It is not included in Messrs. Parish and Shaw's valuable *Dictionary of the Kentish dialect*, which has just been published. This word *mole* is rarely found elsewhere; but it recurs constantly in the accounts of one east Kent parish. In the same parish, during the reign of Henry VIII., four churchwardens were annually elected; two of them being called "*hey wardens*." This use of the words *mole* and *hey* is worth noting.

Mr. Roach Smith has noticed, in a private collection of Roman coins found in Kent, a very beautiful GOLD COIN of GRATIANUS, so sharp and unworn that it could not have been circulated, but must have been stored up as soon as issued.

At LITTLEBOURNE, in repairing an inn, a small monumental inscription on BRASS, dated 1464, has been discovered. It was in its place in Stodmarsh church when Hasted wrote his *History of Kent*, ninety years ago. This is only one of the many instances which prove that the loss of such monumental brasses is due to modern carelessness.



The tenth volume of the transactions of the DERBYSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY was issued to the members last February. It is a somewhat thinner volume than some of its predecessors, but is of diversified interest, and strictly pertinent to the county. The best papers are one of Sir George Sitwell, F.S.A., on Derbyshire Iron Trade in the 17th Century, and a transcript of a Jacobean family chronicle of the Vernon family.

The Society holds a *Conversazione* at Derby, on April 11th. The May summer excursion is to be to Mackworth Castle and Kirk Langley; and another is arranged for July to Bradbourne.

Just as we go to press, we hear of an interesting bone-cave discovery at Brassington, in this county, of which we hope to give particulars in our next issue.



At a *conversazione* of the WORCESTER DIOCESAN ARCHITECTURAL AND ACHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY, held last February, at the Guildhall, Worcester, Rev. A. S. Porter, F.S.A., read a thorough and excellent paper on the ancient *Encaustic Tiles* of the county, in which he pointed out that Worcestershire was foremost in the beauty and interest of the floorings of its churches. At Halesowen abbey 13th century tiles had been found, including a set illustrating the story of Tristram and Yseult. At Bredon were the finest heraldic tiles in England, in all thirty-seven sets of arms, of the date 1372-5. At Tewkesbury Abbey, in the

Founders' chapel, was a tile flooring never disturbed since it was laid down in 1397; whilst both at Malvern and at Droitwich were important 15th century tile kilns that supplied the greater part of the west of England.

During the same evening Alderman Noake entered a strong protest against the mischievous meddling with ancient names of streets and places, instances of which had recently occurred at Worcester.



The recent movements of the LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY have been directed towards holding meetings, with the reading of papers, in some of the noted city halls, and other such places of interest. The last took place in January, at the Vintner's Hall, Thames Street, when an account of the building was given by E. W. Brabrook, F.S.A. A more historic spot was next chosen, viz., the St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, one of the few remaining portions of old London, and now used by the St. John of Jerusalem Ambulance Society. This gate formed the portal of the hospital, or priory, of St. John of Jerusalem, and was restored by public subscriptions in 1846. Here lived Cave, the editor, printer, and proprietor of the "Gentleman's Magazine," established in 1731. Dr. Edwin Freshfield, President of the society, discoursed on the "St. John's Gate, and its associations."

The first part of volume VII. of the Transactions of the Society has just been issued, and contains a paper by the late Alderman Staples, F.S.A., on "Members of the Goldsmiths' Company," who have been alderman of the ward of Aldersgate. Another contribution is on the "Drapers' Company, and its hall." That building seems to have suffered severely, both in the fire of 1666, and again in 1774, when a great part had to be rebuilt. Another building of note (but, unfortunately, to be demolished) stands near the Dutch Church, in Austin Friars, and was one of the mansions of merchant princes, who lived round this church. Some portion of the house evidently belonged to the Augustinian priory once here; and the interior had the fine oaken balusters and mouldings of 17th century architecture.



At the February meeting of the ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, the Rev. F. Spurrell in the chair, a paper on Bradbourne Cross, Derbyshire, was communicated by the Rev. G. F. Browne, and a paper on English Ornamental Lead-work was communicated by Mr. J. L. André. Mr. J. P. Harrison exhibited rubbings and casts of masons' work, lately found in Oxford Cathedral, which he maintained were of Saxon origin.

At the March meeting, E. J. Hopkins, Esq., Mus. Doc., read a paper on the English Mediæval Church Organ. He prefaced his subject with some historical notices, and then treated in detail on the growth of the instrument. He pointed out that, in early times, the term organ was applied to any instrument. "Organ," as a church instrument, would probably, at least, signify only one pipe, which would be used as a pitch-pipe. This was, in due time, succeeded by the "Organs," which the learned lecturer considered would signify a set of pipes. A "pair of Organs" signified a certain aggregate number of pipes. Dr. Hopkins then went on to discuss "*Portative*" and "*Positive*" organs, the *Regalls* and the *Double Organ*, which he accounted for by the little or choir organ being moved after the reformation to a place below the great organ on the screen. After making an interesting allusion to the situation of the organ, Dr. Hopkins brought his paper to a close.

T. H. Baylis, Esq., Q.C., then read some notes on some drawings of three early sepulchral stones at Kirkmadrine, in Wigtonshire. He alluded to the derivation of the name Kirkmadrine, which was supposed to be founded in the time of St. Ninian, and claimed that the stones were of the fifth century. Mr. J. Brown, Q.C., doubted their being so early, on account of the legends commencing, "Hic jacent." Mr. Micklethwaite concurred in this opinion.



In connection with the recent publication of an important work on the GREAT SEALS OF ENGLAND, it is of interest to chronicle that Mr. W. H. St. John Hope has discovered a hitherto unnoticed Great Seal of King Stephen, an account of which will shortly be laid before the Society of Antiquaries.

Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.]

HENRY VIII. AND THE ENGLISH MONASTERIES: Vol. I. By Francis Aidan Gasquet. *John Hodges*. Demy 8vo., pp. xxxii., 478. Price 12s. This is a book of great value, inasmuch as it shows not only downright proof of painstaking research, but also much critical power of weighing evidence and thus escaping rash conclusions. The writer is himself a monk of the Order of St. Benedict; his sympathies, therefore, are naturally engaged, but he has most successfully striven against anything like presenting or pleading a case. "If," says the writer, "I have insisted more on the facts which tell in favour of the monasteries than on those which tell against them, it is because the latter are well known and have been repeated, improved on, and emphasised for three centuries and a half, whilst that there is anything to say on the other hand for the monks has been little recognised even by those who would be naturally predisposed in their favour. My belief is that the facts speak strongly enough for themselves, and I have endeavoured to add as little as possible of my own to the story they tell. All I desire is that my readers should judge from the letters, documents, and opinions, which will be found in the following pages, whether bare justice has hitherto been done to the memory of the monastic order in England." Every well regulated mind, desirous of being correctly informed with regard to one of the most important epochs in English history, whatever may be its particular religious proclivities, ought to be glad to have a statement on this branch of the Reformation movement from a scholar of the same faith and profession as that which then so heavily suffered. The writer of this present notice, though not sharing in the Roman allegiance of Father Gasquet, can bear testimony to the exceeding care with which these pages are written, to the remarkable restraint that is used throughout to guard against the least exaggeration, and to the fair tone of the whole work. It is, indeed, a most remarkable contribution to the history of the time, and is a work of a character that cannot possibly be passed over by any future writer save by the mere rampant controversialist. Our own experience with documents of the time of Henry VIII., together with the examination of many monastic visitations in episcopal registers, enables us to speak with decision. Accuracy is the chief characteristic of the work, and if the accuracy is ever impaired it is by understating the facts that tell in favour of the monasteries and against the outrageous nature of the royal visitations and the royal visitors. There is no attempt whatever to minimise the evils that preceded the Reformation. The appointment of foreigners to vacant sees—the crying abuse and scandal of pluralities—the non-residence of bishops—and the secularity of priests' lives, are all dwelt upon as scourges of the Church of England. An interesting chapter that covers some new ground is the one that deals with "precedents for the suppression of monasteries in England." The story of the rough handling of the knights templars by Edward II. and of the gradual suppression of the alien priories by his successors is succinctly told. A few examples of individual suppression are also given. For instance, Pope Innocent VIII., in 1486, confirmed the appropriation of the estates of the Austin Priory of Selborne to Magdalen College, Oxford, and Pope Alexander VI., a few years later, at the request of Henry VII., granted bulls for the suppression of Mottisfont and Suffield, in order that their property might be incorporated with a chantry and hospital that the king was founding at Windsor. Other precedents, too, can be found, sanctioned by the Holy See, in the earlier years of Henry VIII.'s reign. We note this as an instance of the fairness and candour of the writer in chronicling that which might seem to tell against the injustice of the subsequent wholesale proceedings. We are glad to find that Father Gasquet exposes, though with much calmness, the unfair uses to which that brilliant but utterly unscrupulous writer, Mr. Froude, puts documentary statements. The latter volumes of the officially issued *Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII.*, arranged and edited by Mr. James Gairdner, abundantly support the conclusions arrived at in this work. One of these masterly Calendars, vol. x.,

which deals with the first six months of 1536, and contains a great variety of letters and papers dealing with the suppression of the smaller religious houses, has just recently been issued, and puts in a still blacker light many of the facts that he names. For our own part we frankly acknowledge that our indignation with the loathsome lying charges invented by the king's monastic visitors, Thomas Leigh and Richard Layton, men of notoriously profligate and covetous lives, is far too unmeasured to permit of our writing tranquilly about the most gigantic instance of wholesale false witness that the world has ever seen. These two men seem to us to be the meanest miscreants that ever skulk across the page of English history, with, perhaps, the solitary exception of Richard Topcliffe, the notorious pursuivant of Elizabeth's reign. Our opinion on this point was founded in 1877, when we had for nearly a twelvemonth in our possession, through the courtesy of the Duke of Devonshire, the Chatsworth contemporary MS. copy of the visitation of the monasteries of the province of York and diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, and when we made every endeavour to test and sift a considerable number of their reports. We cannot trust ourselves hardly to write upon this subject, and therefore we reproduce a passage from the *Athenæum* review of the 10th Calendar, under date February 18th, 1888:—After speaking of these royal inquisitors as "men who galloped up and down the land from monastery to monastery, brow-beating, bullying, and frightening the terrified inmates, and sending in as fast they could scribble them down their inventions," the reviewer proceeds—"But the profligates who drew up these unspeakable *comperta* overacted their parts—their testimony would not bear examination. It became necessary, even at this time of excitement, to obtain more trustworthy evidence, and new commissioners were appointed from among the resident gentry of character and position to present a more circumstantial and trustworthy return. Five of these official documents have been briefly analysed in this volume, and more will doubtless follow in the next. A more startling contrast than that which the earlier and later reports present it would be hard to imagine. Mr. Gairdner's preface puts the case too coldly. We are persuaded that a minute and exhaustive criticism of the disgusting *comperta*, aided by such counter evidence as the commissioners' reports afford, will, sooner or later, make it plain that something much worse than the grossest exaggeration—something much more like impudent and enormous lying—is the rule, and not the exception, in the returns of the king's first inquisitors."

Father Gasquet rightly points out a decided blunder in Mr. Gairdner's preface—namely, his surmise that the royal visitors pursued the old methods of inquiry at these visitations, and that the only thing new was that the result was reported to the king. If Mr. Gairdner would study the system of episcopal visitation of monasteries, we are quite sure that he would be the first to withdraw such a foolish conjecture.

We have noted one or two errors in this volume, but as they are unimportant slips, they are scarcely worth pointing out. As an instance, the Abbey of Croxton, mentioned on p. 4, was in Leicestershire and not in Lincolnshire. After allowing for a few minute blemishes of this sort, this volume may fairly receive unstinted praise, there is not a dry page throughout the 500, and whilst there is nothing needlessly aggressive to the most Orange complexioned Protestant who cares to read history at all, there is sufficient warmth of tone, though much subdued, to enable the reader to feel that he is following one who is keenly interested in all he portrays. We are already impatient for the second volume.

J. CHARLES COX, LL.D., F.S.A.



EARLY CHRISTIAN ART IN IRELAND: By Margaret Stokes. *Chapman & Hall*. Pp. xvi., 210. Price 7s. 6d. This is the last issue of the series of South Kensington Art Handbooks, published for the Committee of Council on Education. Certainly it was high time that South Kensington should give attention to the subject of early native art, and not lose itself among Eastern curios, and we hope that this book may be taken as the precursor of better times, and will bring shame to the members of the committee when they reflect how utterly destitute are the galleries of their great art-show of casts or specimens of the ancient early art herein so copiously described and illustrated. Miss Stokes, in her introductory

chapter, amply justifies the publication of a special handbook on Christian Art in Ireland, as separate from the Christian antiquities of England, and especially Scotland and Wales, with which Ireland is so closely connected. The fact is that the number and importance of the Irish examples, as well as the certainty that Ireland was the cradle of all the early Christian art of our island, make such a handbook a necessity to those who would understand the true bearings and history of this interesting subject. The comparative archæologist, when he considers statistics, cannot fail to see the overwhelming preponderance of Ireland in all matters affecting early Christian art. In Ireland, for instance, there are 244 tombstones with inscriptions in the vernacular, whilst Scotland can only boast of seven, five of which are from Iona, and are of a decidedly Irish type; and whilst Ireland has already yielded 154 Ogham inscriptions, Scotland can only show four on the mainland and seven on the islands of Orkney and Shetland. The subjects treated of in this admirable handbook are illumination, Irish scribes on the Continent, metal work, sculpture, and architectural building, including the Round Towers. At the end of the book a most valuable bird's eye view of the whole subject is given in a chronological table of examples of Irish Art, the date of which can be approximately fixed. We are glad to see, under the manuscripts, that the date assigned to "St. Chad's Gospels," preserved at Lichfield Cathedral, is A.D. 650-700, thus showing the author's belief that St. Chad was most likely himself the scribe. Dr. Scrivener, in his valuable work on this Codex, published last year and noticed in the *RELICUARY* for October, 1887, considers this quite possible, and we know that they were assigned to St. Chad in the 14th century. In the references to works on the Irish MSS., no reference is made to Dr. Scrivener's volume; this is an omission, for it is not merely a collation of the text, but contains an account of the MS. and three careful photographs of pages that have not hitherto been illustrated. This handbook is lavishly illustrated with one hundred and six woodcuts. No fault can be found with the few specially executed for this work by Mr. J. D. Cooper, the high cross of Monasterboice being particularly effective and clear, but one or two of the others are from much used blocks that might well be omitted in future editions, such as the landscape on page 180, and the view of the interior of Cormac's chapel on page 192. Though Ireland was beyond all doubt the parent of all early Christian art in these northern islands, and though Irish may be a better term to apply to the interlaced ornament than the sometimes used "Celtic," Anglo-Saxon," or "Runic," the fittest word to use for the convoluted patterns that appear so universally on Irish MSS., metal work, and sculpture has yet to be coined, for such designs are found in archaic art in most parts of the world. South Kensington is to be congratulated on its new departure, and we hope that the same able pen may ere long be again used in art paths of a like direction.



WILLIAM I. AND THE GERMAN EMPIRE: By G. Barnett Smith. *Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, & Rivington*. 8vo., pp. viii., 355. This is a timely and valuable publication, issued but a few weeks before the Emperor's death. Mr. Barnett does not lay any claim to special or exclusive sources of knowledge, but he seems to have spared no pains to obtain the best information from reliable quarters. The Emperor William was not only one of the most vigorous and remarkable personalities of contemporary history, but was "the embodiment of that great German Power which is now the first factor in European politics." In this volume the dual interest attaching to the Emperor, individual and national, is kept clearly in view. It is no mere sketchy biography, because interwoven with the record of the life of Friedrich Ludvig Wilhelm are the equally interesting threads of the rise of the Prussian kingdom and people, and of the foundation and consolidation of the new German Empire. The tale is emphatically well told, and with evident intention of being candid and fair, though at times the zeal of our author for his hero somewhat runs away with him. "Viewed in its relations to the German race and the German Empire, his career has been great and glorious beyond that of any contemporary sovereign," says Mr. Barnett, and to such an assertion no gainsayer will be found; but when he proceeds to add that "when history comes to delineate his character it will depict

him as a man amongst men, a king amongst kings, and a true father to his people," many will be found to cavil. All this remains to be seen. Some of our best qualified statesmen believe they see dark clouds gathering round the immediate future of the German Empire, and whether the military and repressive reign of the monogenarian sovereign has been a blessing or otherwise to his peoples cannot yet be determined. Mr. Barnett has nothing to say with regard to Socialism, emigration, or the various other home questions that already seriously vex the heart of the great Empire. We have again an index complaint to make, not in this case of its absence, but of its shallowness and poverty. The volume concludes with a collection of statistics that furnishes a readily grasped view of the extent, growth, and present position of Germany.



THE HULL LETTERS: By T. Tindall Wildridge. *Hull: Wildridge & Co.* 8vo., pp. xvi., 199. Price 7s. 6d. These Hull letters are printed from a collection of original documents found among the borough archives in the Town Hall, Hull, in 1884, during the progress of the work of arranging and indexing the municipal muniments. This work was entrusted to Mr. Tindall Wildridge, who has now selected and edited the most valuable of the papers that cover the period of the reign of Charles I. until his imprisonment, that is from 1625 to 1646. The first document of the collection relates to the ominous ship money; it is an order of the Council of State to the Corporation of Hull to fit out, "without any allegations or pretences by you made, and without all further delays or excuses whatsoever, three Shippes of the burthen of 200 tunnes a peece, every way furnished as men of warre." The order is dated from Whitehall, March 24th, 1626. On August 10, 1632, a letter was received from the King, dated July 30th, ordering the Mayor to deliver up to the bearer all bows and arrows in the Castle of Hull for removal to the Tower of London. The preludes to the storms of the civil wars seemed to be already rising, and Charles and his advisers were evidently mistrustful of Hull, and rightly so, for Hull was one of the first towns in the north to side positively with the Roundheads, and is specially commended by Lord Fairfax in 1645 for its "constant faithfulness to the Parliament." There is much about different kinds of ordinance then in use. Peregrin Pelham, the well-known member for Hull, writes from Westminster in 1645 to the Corporation, and in the course of his letter says:—"I have spoken with the Parliament's Gunn-founder, wth whom I am well acquainted, about the touch-hole of your Basilisee. He sayth the best way will be to send her up. If she were here he sayth he would put in an iron for 20s., but if the touch-hole be much worne he sayth she will never carry a shot truly. Then he sayth it will be best to refund her. He conceives you may have her founded into a Saker and a Demy Calvering, and a Demy Calvering may be as serviceable as she is, but for this he demands 40^{li}. I think he will send a man for 5^{li} or 6^{li}." These letters are full of interest from beginning to end, every one is of local importance, and not a few of really national interest. Mr. Wildridge has done his part well, the documents seem to have been very carefully copied, there is a readable and commendably brief "Historical Introduction," and a few short biographical notes in the full index of names of persons. We wish, however, that the editing had gone a little further, and that the letters had occasionally been annotated. The Public Record Office would supply many of the statements and replies of the Hull Corporation, which would have made the subject much more interesting. Still we are most grateful to the editor for what he has done, and sincerely trust that other volumes will follow. The only error that we have noted is the dating of a letter, on p. 166, 1838 instead of 1638.



CÆSAR IN KENT: By Rev. Francis T. Vine, B.A. (2d edition). *Elliot Stock.* Small 4to., pp. xiii., 248. Price 5s. It is pleasant to find that a second edition of this well-written and painstaking treatise is already demanded. The new edition is rendered much more valuable by the addition of two maps. The first of these illustrates the route of Julius Cæsar in his two expeditions to Britain, and the second indicates the position that was probably occupied by the Roman and

British armies, when Cæsar returned to Barham Downs after repairing his shattered fleet at Deal. In describing the early trade and habits and mode of life of the inhabitants of Britain prior to the Roman Conquest, Mr. Vine gives a useful hint to hasty archaeologists of our day who are often too apt to ignore everything prehistoric. Considering the large number of articles of metal, glass, and pottery which must have been imported into this country in return for the immense wealth of lead and tin exported by the merchants, it would, indeed, be strange if we did not find with the remains of our British forefathers traces of these valuables. And yet their presence in any interment is almost invariably looked upon as final evidence of the date being subsequent to the Roman occupation. Mr. Vine should know better than to write about "rough sun-dried pottery" of British make having been dug up. Probably there never was such a thing as merely sun-dried pottery, and if there was it could not possibly have survived in a hardened form. With the third edition, Mr. Vine must give an index; it is no excuse to say the book is short; without an index it is as unsightly as a tailless ape.



THE HISTORY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF WREXHAM: By A. N. Palmer. *Wrexham: Woodall, Minshall, & Thomas.* 8vo., pp. vii., 267. Price 5s. The old church of Wrexham has found a worthy annalist in Mr. Palmer. Celebrated for its noble tower, the present fabric of the church is of more interest architecturally than historically, for it is destitute of those intricate interlacements of style and period that give so wondrous a charm to the majority of our old parish churches. Previous fabrics met with various disasters. The tower fell on St. Catharine's Day, 1330, and in 1463 the rebuilt tower, together with the rest of the church, was consumed by fire. The rebuilding of the church was immediately commenced, but the tower was not reconstructed until the beginning of the sixteenth century, namely, in 1506. This date, which is that of the beginning of the work that probably extended over several years, is within four years of the date of the beginning of the fine tower of All Saints', Derby, with which it may be well compared. Though twenty feet less in height than the well-known Derby example, Wrexham carries off the palm for graceful finish. The ornate treatment and the character of the turrets bring to the mind the tower of Taunton, and the better examples of Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, but the tower of Wrexham is a marvellous mingling of strength and grace, and is altogether destitute of the overwrought and insecure effect of the more elaborate towers of western England, caused by the projection of parapets and pinnacles. The lofty octagonal turrets on the four corners of the tower are fitting and majestic encrownments of the graduated buttresses. On the whole, we have no hesitation in considering Wrexham as the finest and most perfect example of a steeple of late Perpendicular character. Mr. Palmer almost lacks in the enthusiasm which we think it ought to kindle in the ecclesiologist or student of church architecture. The total height of the tower to the base of the weathercock is 136 f-et. A distinguishing feature of this tower was its number of statues or figures of the saints, twenty-nine in all, most of which still remain. This crowd of saints encircling the steeple gave to it the name of "The Holy Tower," by which term it was usually designated, as we learn from a writer of the year 1617.

In 1867, the church was "restored" by Mr. Benjamin Ferrey, F.S.A. A most unhappy feature of this "restoration" was the destruction of a great variety of sepulchral inscribed slabs, of which the old flooring was mainly composed. These slabs were either broken up and removed, or else buried beneath the new encaustic tiles, no trouble being taken even to copy the inscriptions which they bore.

Mr. Palmer is most painstaking and zealous in giving every particular that relates to the church and its contents. The mason marks are described and illustrated, the consecration crosses are reproduced, extracts are given from old wills relative to the church, the church plate is fully described, the inscriptions within the church and many in the churchyard are given in full, lists are supplied of the vicars, curates, churchwardens, and parish clerks, whilst the numerous books of record pertaining to the parish are treated of at length, very full extracts being given from the churchwardens' accounts.

Wrexham Church used to be celebrated for its "organs." They were termed "ye fayrest organs in Europe," and are mentioned by Camden and Fuller. This pre-eminence encompassed them with many strange myths as to their origin and working. In Beaumont and Fletcher's "Pilgrim" (Act iv. sc. 3) the Welshman at the madhouse at Segovia says—

"Pendragon was a shentleman, marg you, sir;
And the organs at Rixum were made by revelations:
There is a spirit blows, and blows the bellows,
And then they sing!"

This instrument was, alas, destroyed by the Parliamentarians, under Sir William Brereton, in 1643. Mr. Palmer should know better than to explain the term "organs" or "pair of organs" as having "two sets of keys." The oldest organs had never more than one manual, yet were always spoken of in the plural. The reason for the plural is that the term is taken as descriptive of the pipes. As to the word "pair" it is used in the sense of an aggregate, and is equivalent to the term "set." Thus we find the terms "pair of chess," "pair of beads," "pair of cards," and we still use "pair of tongs," and "pair of steps." Wrexham possesses a good pre-Reformation chalice, of which a plate is given; it is said to be of early 16th century date. The earliest churchwardens' books, beginning in 1489, found their way to the muniment room of Chirk Castle, but are not now forthcoming. Those in the church begin with the Restoration. Excellent use has been made of them and of the other parish records in this volume. One of the most interesting of the earlier entries (June 10th, 1663) shows that the velvet cloth and cushion and "the imbrodering of the Pulpit cloth" cost the then very large sum of £23 10s. The carriage of this embroidered velvet and cushion from London cost 4s. 6d., and the box in which it was packed, and which was wisely "left in the church to keep the pulpit cloth clean" cost another 3s. Contrary to the usual opinion, there were at all times generous givers to the church's needs and adornment, as every fresh investigation proves. We had jotted down for reference a variety of interesting details chronicled or explained in these pages that are so brimful of interest, not only for the local antiquary, but for the general ecclesiologist, but our notice has already run on to unusual length. Almost our sole complaint with this book is its arrangement, which is a little bewildering, nor are we at all enamoured with the plan of numbering all the paragraphs, which gives a patchwork effect to continuous writing. The publishers, too, somewhat vex us by not placing the lettering of the book on the back, so that as it now stands in the shelves it might be a Greek grammar or a French exercise book. Nevertheless, this history of the Church of St. Giles, Wrexham, is a remarkably good book, and about the cheapest five shillings' worth of original archaeological work with which we are acquainted. Bound up with the history of the church is Mr. Palmer's scholarly essay on the "Portionary Churches of Medieval North Wales," reprinted from the *Archæologia Cambrensis* of 1886.



THE BEST PLAYS OF JAMES SHIRLEY, with Introduction by Edmund Gosse, M.A. (Mermaid Series.) Vizetelly & Co. Post 8vo., pp. xxx., 466. Price 2s. 6d. Shirley, who was born in London in 1596, was the last of the Elizabethan dramatists. He gave up the curacy of St. Albans to become a Roman Catholic, and after a vain attempt to get up a school in that town he went to London to write for bread. The great fire of 1666 burned him out of house and home, and his death speedily followed. Lamb says of him that "he claims a place among the worthies of this period, not so much for any transcendent talent in himself, as that he was the last of a great race . . . a new language came in with the Restoration." But notwithstanding this very qualified praise, the true poet shines out in many places throughout his dramas; this is specially the case with respect to the *Cardinal*. This volume, which is as charming in text and type as its predecessors of the same series, contains *The Witty Fair One*, *The Traitor*, *Hyde Park*, *The Lady of Pleasure*, *The Cardinal*, and *The Triumph of Peace*. We are surprised that *The County Captain* is not included. Mr. Gosse's introduction is able and full of interest.

THE CORONER'S COURT: ITS HISTORY AND PROCEDURE; by Frederick Martin Burton, LL.D. *G. A. Brannon*, Newport, Isle of Wight.—This is an interesting and scholarly essay upon an interesting subject; but it is worthy of closer and more thorough attention than has yet been given to it, and we hope that Dr. Burton will be encouraged to continue his researches, and eventually to expand the size of this modest tractate. Meanwhile, this monograph is the best and most careful summary of the history of this ancient office with which we are acquainted. The books of Umfreville, Williamson, Impey, Jervis, etc., on the Coroner and his jurisdiction are, one and all, unsatisfactory and meagre in their history, and continue to copy each others errors. The Coroner, as the sole elected legal representative of the people, has attached to his office an infinitely more interesting history than which pertains to the more modern office of the capriciously selected Justice of the Peace. Dr. Burton tells us that Sunday is a *dies non juridicus*, and that the execution of a writ of inquiry on such a day is void; but we know of both Staffordshire and Derbyshire instances of 17th century date, in which coroners' inquests were held on Sunday, and, occasionally, in the church itself.



MONUMENTS OF GREEK AND ROMAN SCULPTURE, historically arranged under the direction of Heinrich Brunn. *Asher & Co.*, Bedford St., Covent Garden, (London Agents.) Large folio, to be completed in about 80 parts, at £1 each; to appear at intervals of three or four weeks.—This is a grandly conceived, and all-important work. During the past twenty years much energy, both of a national and private character, has been displayed in the exploration of classical regions, such as Olympia, Pergamus, Troy, Mycenæ, Tiryns, Delos, Assos, Lycia, and Cyprus. The extensive discoveries resulting from this enterprise have not only brought to light much that is absolutely new in the history of Classic Art, but have also materially modified previous conclusions. It certainly was high time that there should be a new departure in the work of illustrating the sculptures of classic art; and the agency of photography, in good hands, is not only the natural, but the best means of giving graphic reproductions. The results that can now be obtained through the more perfected processes are just as permanent as copper-plate, and free from the individuality that often mars the work of a copyist, draughtsman, or engraver. Each part of this grand undertaking will contain five plates in phototype, measuring 25 in. by 18 in., with accompanying text. It was found impossible to adopt a strictly uniform scale of reduction for works of such a diverse character; but a correct idea of the actual size will, in all cases, be conveyed by the scale in centimeters accompanying each photograph. The plates of the first number are fully up to the expectations we formed on reading the prospectus. Professor Heinrich Brunn deserves all support from the classic art students of England. Every Art School in the country should subscribe to this invaluable series.



A HISTORY OF TAXATION AND TAXES IN ENGLAND: By Stephen Dowell. *Longmans, Green, & Co.* 4 vols., 8vo. Price 42s.—We are glad to have an opportunity of cordially welcoming the second edition of Mr. Stephen Dowell's important work on the Taxation and Taxes of our country. The new edition is a material improvement on its predecessor. The narrative has been extended to 1885, and includes the budget of that year. Several new appendices have been added, one of which that cannot fail to be useful, gives a general tabular statement of expenditure and revenue during the 18th and 19th centuries, under the three heads of (1) Interest on the National Debt; (2) Expenditure for the Army and Navy (Peace establishment); and (3) Expenditure for the Civil List and Civil Government. The index is far fuller in the new edition, being divided into two parts; the first being the index to vols. I. and II., which deal with the history of Taxation; and the second to vols. III. and IV., which treat of the history of Taxes. To antiquaries, the first volume, which deals with the history of Taxation from the earliest times down to the civil war, will be found brimful of interest, and when tested in any special point by the writings of specialists seems, for the most part, to be singularly accurate. To politicians the work appears to us to be

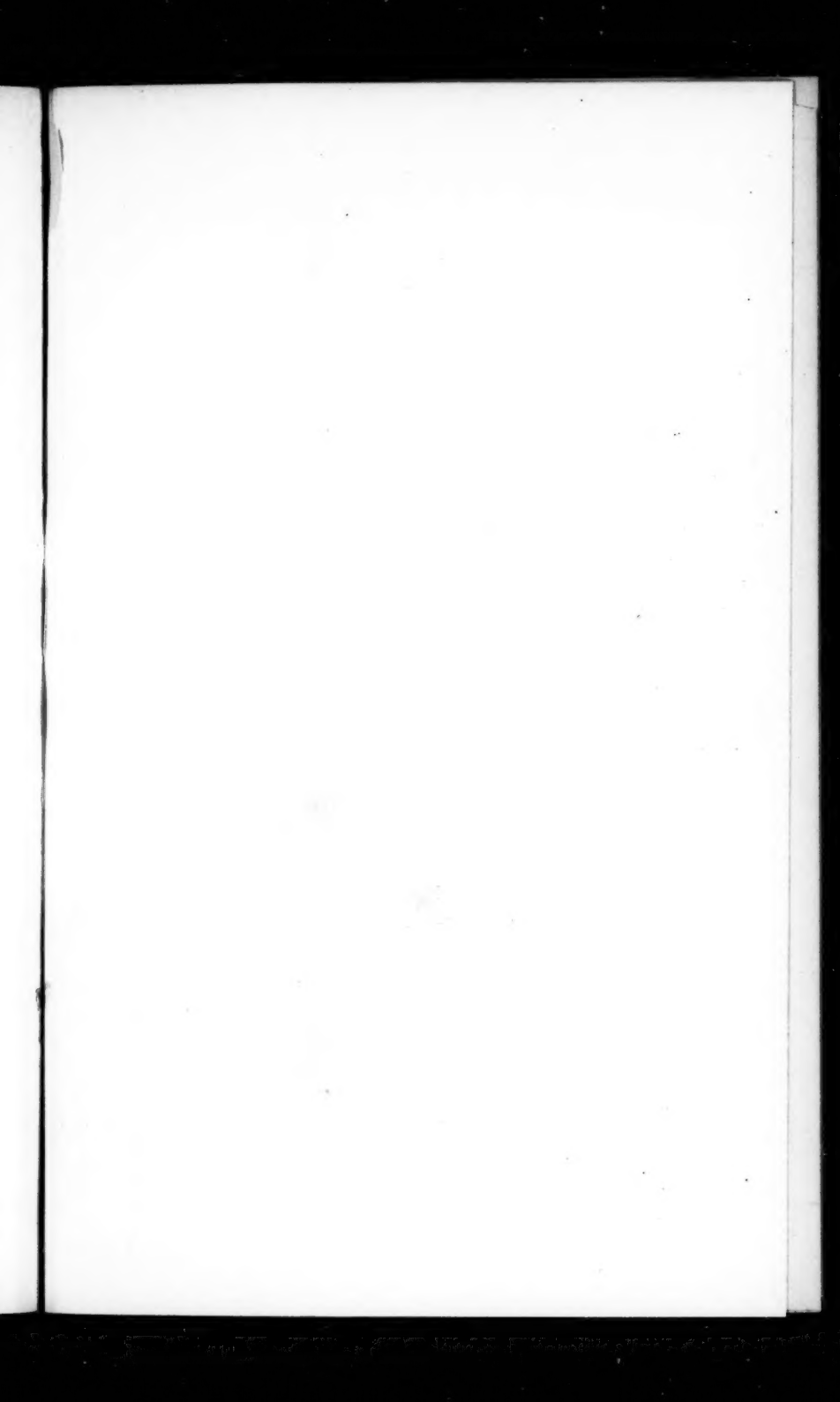
indispensable. The library that lacks these volumes will be destitute of one of the most important and careful English books of reference of the century. In whatever subject we take an interest connected with the history or social well-being of England, Mr Dowell's volumes are sure to prove helpful. A new Local Government Bill is now drawing attention of many outside teetotal organizations to the question of public-houses (or "Tippling-shops," as Stuart times often termed them), and their licenses. Mr. Dowell shows us that in 1552 they were under direct magisterial supervision, and gives instances of the thorough way in which they were often suppressed. In 1575, the Lord Mayor and local authorities, at one morning sitting, put down about 200 ale-houses in the City, Southwark, and Lambeth, and after dinner suppressed another 100 in Westminster. County records, upon which this work does not touch, show that the Justices of the provinces of the 16th and 17th century were often equally summary and emphatic in their suppression upon any report of disorder. And they would have been very scornful at the idea of compensation for removal of license, even where no offence was proved; for if they thought the neighbourhood was better without them, for any private or public reason, the license was quashed, and the village constable ordered to haul down the sign.



DEBRETT'S BARONETAGE, KNIGHTAGE, AND COMPANIONAGE FOR 1888. *Dean and Son*. Demy 8vo, pp. 812, with 800 illustrations of armorial bearings. Subscribers' price, 12s. 6d.—Last year we noticed DebreTT's Peerage and House of Commons. This year we have received the Baronetage. It is the 80th year of publication, and the 175th edition. No modern rival even approaches DebreTT for accuracy or fulness of detail, or for wonderful cheapness, though they may be somewhat more attractive in appearance. For purposes of reference, new editions of works of this description are constantly needed, and this is pre-eminently the case with the issue for the current year. The Jubilee year of grace, 1887, was so singularly prolific in distribution of honours that no less than 1,109 new names appear for the first time in this one volume of DebreTT, irrespective of the usual average of changes through death, promotion, succession, etc. We have carefully tested several of the new insertions and can find no errors. It is a hackneyed and abused term, but of DebreTT it is but the simple truth to write "indispensable."



BOOKS RECEIVED.—*The Bookworm* (Elliot Stock), steadily maintains the reputation gained by the first number. On our table are also the current copies of the *East Anglian* and the *Western Antiquary*. Wales as now its own Notes and Queries, under the title *Old Welsh Chips*. The first number (January, 1888, price 6d.) is before us, edited and compiled by Edwin Poole, Brecon. The introductory matter is vulgar in style, and slipshod in expression; the rest of the contents are chiefly noteworthy for a lack of originality; these "Chips" are very dry, and will soon blaze out. From W. J. E. Price, F.S.A., we have received an excellent tractate, with numerous illustrations, on *Recent Discoveries in Newgate Street*: it is a reprint from the fifth volume of the Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society. The first number of the *Archaeological Review* (David Nutt), for March, 1888, price 2s. 6d., has reached us. It is divided into four heads: Anthropology, Archaeology, History, and Literature. Its scheme, as explained by the editor, Mr. G. Laurence Gomme, F.S.A., is eminently practical, and clashes with no other publication, general or provincial. If it sustains the excellency of the first number its success ought to be assured; but, alas! merit does not always succeed. The first instalment of an Index of Archaeological Papers, shows that the plan might be more comprehensive and more thorough; for instance, it should be stated whether the article is illustrated. With great confidence we recommend this new Review to our own Subscribers. The following books have also been received just before going to press; they will be noticed in our next issue:—*A Biographical Dictionary of English Catholics* (Burns and Oates); *Haarlem, not Mentz* (Elliot Stock); and the second volume of Henry Morley's great work on *English Writers* (Cassell and Co.)





I



II

ARMORIAL LEDGER STONES. HOLY TRINITY. HULL